



IN THE TABLOID



IN THE TABLOID: 9 PAGE OF MUSIC

Cane and able: Bill Clinton and Tony Blair walking through the garden at Downing Street yesterday

Photograph: David Rose

# A new accord is born

**Anthony Bevins** Political Editor

Tony Blair and Bill Clinton opened up a new phase of buddy politics yesterday with a rose garden press conference in which they both declared the death of the old ideologies.

The two leaders agreed dur-ing a morning of talks at No10 they would pool ideas and drive for an international programme of job-generation, and there was hard-thinking and de-termination to push the peace process in Northern Ireland.

But the most remarkable accord, with identical views echoed, was on the new politics of a new generation of world

to judge government not by grand designs but by practical

The President said that government had to reconcile the demands of economic growth with the demands of family, neighbourhood and communi-ty. "I don't think it's the end of ideology, but I think it's the end

of yesterday's ideology.
"The more people see the issues framed in terms of attacks of parties on each other in vesterday's language, that seems disconnected to their own concerns, hopes and problems, the

more faith is lost in politics." Earlier, in exchanges with the

Estrong on ideals, indifferent drift" - and was rewarded with ry with the shackles of what can to ideology, whose instinct is one of Labour's election pledge only be characterised as almost cards by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister.

While the day's events delivered little sign of action, the words were strongest on Northera Ireland, with President Clinton urging the IRA to call an unconditional ceasefire, and get into inclusive talks.

"You can't say, 'We'll talk and shoot. We'll talk when we're happy and shoot when we're not'. Every political process in the world is a struggle for principled compromise, which means, when it's over, no-one is 100 per cent happy.

He said the people of Northern Ireland no longer wanted to new Cabinet, Mr Clinton recit- be led down the destructive

individuals - two adult females

and four children - have been

unearthed and around half the

bones had out marks on them

Scattered around them was

other food debris - the bones of borse, deer, bison, rhino and

made by sharp stone tools.

primitive hatred of people be-cause they are of different re-

ligions than you are." Mr Blair, who spoke of the 'great burning frustration" of Northern Ireland's problems, said it was possible to move the peace process forward. "But it's got to be done with care and I'm sure as they played a helpful role before, the US will play a help-

ful role again." The two men also agreed that there would be much more concerted international efforts to share experience on jobs and employment, with next month's Denver meeting of the Group of Eight leading industrial nations being followed up

in northern Spain - believe that the six victims and pre-

sumably the cannibals them-

selves belong to a previously

unknown human species which

they have called Homo ante-

In a scientific paper pub-lished in the American-based

academic journal, Science, to-

day, the Spanish team propos-

es that, in Europe, the newly

discovered species eventually

evolved into Neanderthal Man.

around one million years ago, Homo antecessor arrived in Eu-

rope from Africa (probably via

the Middle East) and that those

Homo antecessor humans who

But they also believe that

cessor ("Ancestor Man").

Mr Clinton, who said that a stable monetary system was one of the keys to successful job creation, went out of his way to praise Mr Blair's decision to hand the Bank of England operational control over interest

As for the evident bond that has been formed between the two men, Mr Clinton said repeatedly during the day that he wished he had a 179-vote majority, and he added later that for all their similarities, Mr Blair was seven years younger and had no white hair.

Asked what advice he had to

offer Mr Blair, the President said: "Relating concentration is fatal in this business."

Nevertheless, he admitted tiful British spring".

stayed in Africa eventually

evolved into our species, Homo

supiens. According to the new the-

ory. Ancestor Man is therefore

the common ancestor of both

ourselves and the Neanderthals,

who became extinct around

30,000 years ago. The discovery ties in with other evidence of hu-

man occupation in Europe and

the Middle East: a 1.2 million year

old bone from the Caucasus and

tools from one million years ago

in Israel and from around 800,000

years ago in Italy.
Similar 900,000-year-old tools have also been discovered

in an even deeper excavation

level at the Atapuerca excava-

tion and there are controversial

# Bill makes Tony the man to be seen with

By Rupert Cornwell

Tony Blair yesterday achieved the near impossible. He made Bill Clinton look old and wise, discreet, and world-weary, every inch the statesman. Of course an injured leg helped. Nothing does more for a fellow's gravitas than to walk with a cane, especially the whorled, silver-topped variety sported by the President of the United States.

But what was it one Jack Kennedy, exactly our Prime Minister's age, 43, when he came to power, said about torches being passed? Rub your eyes on a dazzling spring day in Downing Street, and it seemed to be nappening – from a becalmed and aimless American presidency to the coltish omnipotence of Blairdom. "Td like to have a 179 seat majority," Clinton said plaintively of a goal as unattainable as political rehabilitation for Alain Juppé, or a century for Mark Taylor. But if you haven't got a majority of 179, the next best thing is to rub shoulders with someone who has.

shoulders with someone who has. Thus yesterday's astounding reversal of

roles. With the recent exception of John Major, amid the Gerry Adams visa row, there is nothing British prime ministers so adore as a trip to the White House, and an Appearance on the World Stage. But when did an American president actually go out of his way at short notice to press flesh in London - and even, as we are led to believe, extend what was initially planned as a stopover into a full day's visit? Right now, Yony Blair is the of the European Tour of the Professional Prime Ministers' Association. There's one immutable rule with Bill Clinton - if you're

worth being seen with, he'll be there. And, after a slow start, quite a meal he made of it too. "It's a beautiful day," was all the 42nd president could manage at first, at the obligatory doorstep photo-op, along with a limp wave of the hand. Uncharitable souls might have imagined his mind was elsewhere

'Now what lessons

might Cherie have

learned from her

guest? Don't give

up your day job.

Never give an

interview. Gaze

adoringly at your

husband on all

occasions, but zip

your lip. Don't

parade your

try your hand at

years ago in southern Spain.

aldest positively identified hu-

man bone ever found in Europe

was a massive lower jaw found in Germany in 1907 and thought to date from between

The excavation is being

directed by Dr José Maria

Bermudez de Castro of Madrid's National Museum of Natural Sciences, Dr Juan Luis

Arsuaga of Madrid's Com-

plutense University and Dr Eu-

dald Carbonell of Taragona

500,000 and 700,000 years.

- perhaps on one Paula Jones and unspeakable courtroom embarrassment to come. But, as the cameramen were not satisfied, soon that "aw-shucks" Clinton grin flashed, "Once more with feeling, I guess.

For minutes, it seemed, they clicked away. And that was just the beginning. Inside, the residential address to the Cabinet drew those sycophantic tributes new rulers instantly learn to beap upon their peer: capped by what was described as dignified banging on the table by the assembled Ministers of the Crown, indubitably dignified men and women all. But even that was mere billing and cooing, compared to the trumpet fugue of mutual admiration that would later pass for a joint press conference.

"Bill said something very important there," murmured young Tony at one point. "I'm not bere to give advice, but to learn from new Labour ... I'm impressed by the optimism of Britain, and Tony Blair's government," old Bill had opined a few moments earlier, making a valiant stab to get into the first-

name-only spirit of Blairism. There was much uplifting talk about uplifting things like the radical centre, market flexibility, danuting challenges ahead, tough decisions facing new generations, and so on. The body language was 'dyllic - enough to bring on nightmares about a rebirth of the "special relationship".

Mercifully, the dread phrase escaped no President's careful choice of words, while the Prime Minister restricted himself to "the strong bonds of history and heritage" -Britain, after all, is committed to Europe. But Helmut only speaks German, and Jacques is on the skids. A comple of weeks more of this and, God forbid, the special relationship will be up and running again. Yesterday though, nothing could spoil the mood. There wasn't even a question about Paula.

#### reorganising the path. "We talk about changing economic policy," he said. "A far greater tragedy is to move into the wonders of the 21st centu-The Prime Minister told reed familiar phraseology from in January with a British meetthat what he had most looked NHS on your own' porters in the No10 garden: ing of GS, and heads of govnew Labour's manifesto - "for forward to seeing was "the unique and unspeakably beau-This is the generation that the many not the few, the future ernment meeting, in a year's time, in Birmingham. Polly Toynbee, page 8 prefers reason to doctrine, that not the past, leadership not The earliest Europeans were cannibals



Flesh-eating: Ancestor Man's 800,000-year-old teeth found in northern Spain

Emu 'still on track' The European Commission attempted to keep monetary union on track after Germany's divisions on sin-Page 16 gle currency. Leading article, page 21

Archaeology Correspondent

Archaeologists have discovered the oldest Europeans, dating back 800,000 years. But far from existing in a European Garden of Eden, they appear to have been cannibals.

The evidence from a cave in northern Spain shows that the six individuals, whose bones have been found so far, were eaten by their fellow humans. It is the earliest known example of cannibalism, and victims apparently selected as prey were easy targets women and children.

More winnings

Camelot was embroiled in a

fresh fat-cat row after it ad-

mitted that its directors were

heading for another two

bonuses this year, in spite of making less money. Page 6

possibly elephant - and up to 100 stone implements, many of which would no doubt have been used to chop up both the animals and the humans. In

some cases the bones had been broken open in order to extract the highly nutritious marrow. who have found the remains -Around 80 human bones and inside the entrance of a former cave at Atapuerca near Burgos,

bone fragments from at least six

THE BROADSHEET Business & City .24-28 Comment .....21-23 Foreign News ...14-19 Gazette ..........20

The Spanish archaeologists

Leading articles ...21 Obituaries ......20 Home News ..... 2-13

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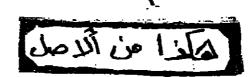
University.

ΕD GENE CLINT **LASTWOOD HACKMAN HARRIS** A WICKEDIA' ENTERTAINING SPINE TINGLER! children. And don't suggestions of possible tools from more than one million Before the discovery of the Atapuerca cannibal victims, the

CASTLE ROLL EMERGLANACHT MESER I MALHEO PROMITIC CLAMT EASTWOOD

CHECH HACTMAN ED HARRE "RECLAMTE POWER & LAURA LANGET JULY DAVE
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#### significant shorts

#### Boy dies after falling eight floors in 'lift-surfing' craze

A mother warned children against the dangers of lifts yesterday after her 10-year-old son plunged more than 100 feet to his death while playing on the roof of an elevator at a Leeds housing estate.

while playing on the roof of an elevator at a Leeds housing estate.

Jean Illingworth described how she had also warned her son,
Paul, about the perils of "lift-surfing", in which youngsters travel on
lifts as they move up and down the shaft. Emergency Services were
called to the estate in the Swarcliffe area of Leeds on Wednesday.
Paul was discovered at the foot of the lift shaft, having fallen eight
floors. He was rushed to St James's hospital, Leeds, but was pronounced dead on arrival.

Detective Inspector Bob Quantock of West Yorkshire police said: "It seems that youngsters found out how to stop the lifts and then jumped on top of them. They then rode up and down in the darkness of the shaft". An inquest on the boy's death will take place next

#### **Ad campaign backfires**

Another mortgage company came forward yesterday to claim its free television exposure from the Direct Line financial services company as its latest advertising campaign turns into a major

Scottish Widows took up the so-called Direct Line Challenge on four facers of its customer service and appeared in three advertisements on primetime television last night paid for, as promised in the original challenge, by Direct Line. Direct Line has already had to accommodate First Direct in its commercials, and media buyers estimate that the airtime it has given to its rivals is so far worth at least £500,000.

#### Guitar man sells art collection



Rock guitarist Eric Clapton added £419,665 to his multimillion pound fortune yesterday after selling part of his collection of modern art. All 32 lots in the collection.

which included drawings by Dégas and Matisse. successfully went under the hammer at Christie's in London. Modern art enthusiasts, as well as fans of the guitar genius, who won fame with the Yardbirds and Cream in the Sixties, packed

the saleroom of the King Street auction house The success of the sale was apparent with the first lot - Sandro Chia's Meditation doubled its expected sale price within minutes, going for for £87,300.

#### **Woman's death was preventable**

The death of a woman who was killed by her husband after he escaped from a probation hostel could have been prevented by health and social services, according to an independent inquiry published yesterday.

The man, from Middlesbrough, was convicted of manslaughter after killing his estranged wife in April last year. She had moved to Manchester to escape him. The report makes 18 recommendations, and says that Bromley Health Authority, the South East London Probation Service and Bromley Social Services did not communicate or work together to prevent the tragedy.

#### Smog alert for the weekend

The first summer smog alert of the year was issued yesterday as he Department of the Environment said many areas of England and

Wales were likely to suffer poor air quality this weekend.

Poor ozone levels are forecast for England and Wales, while areas in south-west England and London may also experience poor nitrogen dioxide levels today and on Saturday, although "air quality is likely to improve on Sunday".

Air quality classified as "poor" means people with breathing problems, such as asthma or bronchitis, may feel a little uncomfortable. Sufferers are advised to consider increasing any treatment temporarily - and talk to their doctors about the

#### Teacher sues over sex allegations

A teacher at a private school resigned after he felt "driven out" by accusations that his son had sexually harassed foreign students in his care, an industrial tribunal in Ashford, Kent, heard yesterday. Chas Brooks is claiming he was constructively dismissed from

the Perry Court Rudolph Stemer School in Garlinge, near Canterbury, Kent, after the governing body refused to apologise for the allegations, which, he said, were "wholly untrue". Mr Brooks said: "I wrote to every girl who had ever stayed with us and every one wrote back saying nothing of the sort had happened.

They were upset that the allegations had even been made." The tribunal was adjourned until today, when the school begins its case.

Mr Brooks, 48, was a class teacher at the 230-pupil school which

charges £3,000-a-year for a unique education from the age of three to 18. Pupils are taught by one teacher who covers all subjects.

#### Court warning on cannabis for pain

A man who took part in Government tests using cannabis for pain relief was given a conditional discharge yesterday after he admitted cultivating the drug.

In what was seen as a test case, Andrew Betts, 30, was conditionally discharged for two years but warned by a judge that if he offended again he could face a harsher penalty. Betts pleaded guilty at Maidstone Crown Court to cultivating 45 cannabis pleants at his home in Gillingham, Kent. The court heard he suffered from the rare disease familial Mediterranean fever and could legally take large doses of the pain-killing drug morphine.

Penelope Barrett, for the defence, told the court that Betts was

not intending to sell the drug, and that by smoking it he could reduce his intake of morphine Miss Barrett said Betts took part in a study approved by the Home Office in 1994. He was given capsules containing THC, a constituent of cannabis, which reduced his pain.

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## Currie's spicy sauce was bait for Cook's confection

ebbie Currie's career as a pop singer has been revealed as a hoax designed to expose the alleged rigging of the charts.

The daughter of the colourful former Tory MP, Edwina, entered the national consciousness in a blaze of sleazy stories about her sex life and a salacious pic-

ture wearing little more than two fried eggs.
However, she claimed yesterday that although her first single, "You Can Do Magic", has reached number 36 in the charts, her ambitions are as a journalist rather than as a chanteuse.

it emerged that Ms Currie posed as a wannabe star for Carlton TV's The Cook Report to show that record companies are using teams of buyers to boost sales

Major music companies flood stores with cheap or ree singles and pay shop assistants to swipe through their COs, registering fictional sales, according to the programme's investigation.

Ms Currie said: "I felt it was very important to show..."

the things that happen in the music industry because it's a huge industry in this country and hundreds of ople are being ch

Fulham and

Fayed is match

of the day

Mohamed Al-Faved, the owner of

Harrods, yesterday became the

chairman and major shareholder

And the business tycoon imme-

diately pledged to invest heavily in

the club and restore it "to its for-

mer glory". A spokesman for Har-

businessman would invest up to

The takeover follows the resignation by the television pundit and

Hill had said he would welcome

former Fulham player Jimmy Hill

a successor with the financial

muscle to make the necessary

ground, Craven Cottage. The sta-

dium by the banks of the Thames

in west London is only a short dri-

ve from Mr Fayed's famous store

in Knightsbridge. Mr Fayed said: "I am delighted

to have this opportunity to invest in such a great and historic foot-

ball club which so many people

"I am totally committed, both personally and financially, to the

plans for the revival of the club

and I look forward to sharing a

bright future with the loyal fans.

The vice-chairman, Bill Muddy-

man, will continue in his position,

and the financing will be provided

by his family - including his son,

Andy, another director - and

hold in high esteem.

improvements to the club's

rods said the Egyptian-born

£30m in the club.

as chairman last week.

of Fulham Football Club.

copies of her single, a remake of the Seventies hit. The programme, which will be shown in two parts starting next Tuesday, had then sent out a team to "buy back" about 800 copies from some of the 3,000 supposedly secret chart return shops used to compile the

weekly top 100, he said. If true, the programme's claims would confirm rumours that have plagued the music industry for years. Part of the creation of Ms Currie's image as a pop star involved tabloid revelations about her private life, in which she claimed she lost her virginity at 15 and

once enjoyed a four-in-a-bed sex session. However, Mr. Cook denied the publicity had overshadowed a serious investigation.

He said: "As long as the point is still made, I think it doesn't matter. I think Debbie did a terrific job and I don't think of myself as a television personality at all." Ms Currie, who had been working as a trainee news reporter at Central-TV before joining The Cook Report, said she had felt "some bits" of the publicity were hu-

Roger Cook said his company had deliberately man- I had to a certain extent grown up with that."

#### miliating, although she regretted nothing. "I wasn't surprised by the attention so much beca

#### One man and his

cruelty to dogs Gwyn Jones, a British sheepdog trial champion, showed a "wicked disregard" for the suffering of five of his dogs, three of which had to be but down.

Jones, 45, from Penmachno, near Betws-y-Coed in north Wales, who won the British championship three times and is the current Welsh champion, denied the five charges of causing unnecessary suffering brought by the RSPCA. But he was found guilty yesterday by Llandudno Magistrates' Court. All the dogs were emaciated;

underweight and dirty and had skin problems. Chris Dawson, for the prosecu-tion, said "all five dogs were quite knowingly caused unnecessary suffering and in relation to the two older dogs (Meg and Kirk) the de-fendant acknowledged they were

in a poor condition. The defendant wholly failed all five dogs and showed what can only be regarded as a wicked disregard to the suffering he forced them to ensure."

When an RSPCA inspector called at his farm. Jones said: "I feed my dogs, I fill their tins up. I have not been well and have been

receiving treatment."
After fining Jones £2,000 and ordering him to pay £1,750 towards the RSPCA's costs, the magistrates' chairman Owain Evans said: "We feel you have been extremely negligent ... and should have known these dogs needed proper care." Matthew Brace

#### briefing

#### SOCIETY

#### lrishmen are Europe's worst for helping out in the home

Marry a Dane but avoid an Irishman appears to be the best advice

Marry a Dane but avoid an Irishman appears to be the best advice for any woman wondering how best to negle children, meals and housework with the demands of a full-time job.

A standy by the European Companions confirms that most Barepean fathers are still playing a marginal role when it comes to childcare. Worstonfeaders are frighmen, Greeks, Italians, Spaniards, and Tuxembourgers, while only in Denmark and Holland can women expect anything versuar on could narmershim.

Spaniards, and Luxembourgers, while only in Denmark and Holland can women expect anything versing on equal partnership. One in three women in the EU is classed officially as a housewife. But the house husband seems an illusory creature, with less than I per cent of men aged 25 to 39 staying at home full-time. Iroland has the highest percentage of housewives, with 60 per cent of women in the 25 to 39 age bracket remaining at home to look after children, and take three of highest-hold chores.

In Spain Greece Italy and Luxembourg the percentage is also more than 40%. Housewives as a percentage of the British population have fallen to below the EU average. The housewife is population have laured and Belgium and almost extinct in Denmark where only 4 per cent of women opt to work exclusively Katherine Butler, Brussels

#### HEALTH

#### Macho Britons ignore burning issue

ranning a high risk of skin cancer because they believe wrongly, that they rarely burn.
According to the Health
Education Anthonity (HEA) almost a third of men though they were safe from the harmful effects of the sun's

rays. Only one in five women held the same view. The survey also discovered that men were far less likely to use sunscreens. The comulative effect was that 29 per cent of men reported having been burnt during the last year as opposed to 23 per

cent of wome



# of skin cancer cases, more than 40,000 last year, the HEA be many have not got the message. The problem has been exact by millions taking to foreign beaches each summer with man ignoring the need for sunscreens.

#### Aspirin 'can prevent strokes'

Aspirin, the everyday treatment for everything from headach to heart attacks, can also help prevent stroke, researchers clair today. They said that aspirin should be given immediately to people who have ischaemic strokes - those caused by blood clair But other experts called the findings inconclusive even thou there is no suggestion that giving aspirin could do any harm. concern has emerged that aspirin, which can cause internal

bleeding, could be harmful to stroke victims. Two trials of 40,000 stroke patients - one involving 36 count and one based in China - found aspirin slightly decreased the of death in the first two weeks after a stroke.

Peter Sandercock, of the University of Edinburgh, who help co-ordinate the international trial of 20,000 patients, said: "It's good to find the cheapest, easiest treatment is the best."

The study, published in the Lancet, compared aspirin with heparin, another drug used to help prevent blood clots. It found heparin slightly increased the risk of haemorrhagic stroke.

#### POPULATION

#### Pregnant woman dies every minute

) 1 jä

A woman dies every minute from pregnancy-related problems, largely because of a lack of adequate contraception, according to the latest United Nations Population Fund Report.

Many women were coerced or pressured into pregnancy, or simply had no way of preventing it. The State of World Population, found. It concluded that up to 150 million more women would use birth control if it was available and that at least 75 million pregnancies each year are unwanted. "For many women, denial of sexual and reproductive rights is a matter of life or death," said Le Nafis Sadik, executive director of the UN Population Fund

She said there had been a decrease in the rate of growth in the world's population and was confident it would stabilise at about eight billion by 2050, instead of the projected 11 billion.

Jojo Moyes

#### **MOTORING**

#### The car with forward thinking

The car of the future will be able to alert the breakdown services before it fails, and contact the police if you have had a crash, even if that has left you unconscious. Other applications that will become available in cars by 2000

include personal guidance on a journey and low-cost in-car systems telling you where traffic congestion is worst. New cars being built by Vauxhall will include a "black box"

called Onstar, which will integrate a mobile phone system with the car's electronic engine management system chip and a Global Positioning System (GPS) location finder.

Using data beamed via the mobile phone, the car could alert breakdown services when problems developed - and if the airbag was set off it could also call out ambulances. The system will cost about £600.

Charles Arthur; Leading article, page 21.

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#### NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers

in the first half of 1996

#### THEY'LL GET YOU UP-TIGHT ON HOLIDAY.

through Mr Fayed's company Fui-

as well as stadium improvements

for Fulham, who have just been

promoted to the second division.

The shareholders want to in-

crease the capacity of the stadium

from its present 15,000 to 25,000.

An earlier plan for a residential de-

velopment as part of a revamped

myself and other members of the

board this marriage between Ful-harn FC and Mr Fayed is our

tunity for our football club to re-

Bill Muddyman said: "For Andy,

"It presents a wonderful oppor-

turn to its former glory and to take

its place where it belongs - at the

stadium has been shelved.

dream scheme come true.

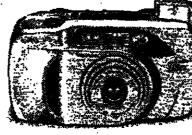
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ham Leisure Holdings.

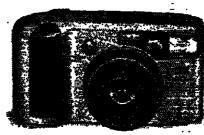


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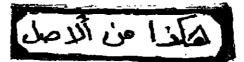


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# Britain enjoys a summer of money

**Michael Streeter** 

are Europe's Worst o

ut out in the home

**高**斯 2004年3月1日 1975年

In years to come, the middle months of 1997 will be remembered as the Summer of

The massive flotation of Halifax building society, which begins on Monday, is just the biggest in a series of "de-mutualisations" or takeovers which will punctuate this summer, releasing up to £29bn into consumers' pockets.

An estimated one-third of all

adult Britons are likely to benefit from the windfall pay-outs
from the Woolwich and Northern Rock building societies, and insurance companies Norwich Union and Scottish Amicable - and while most of the money will be saved, up to one quarter will be spent within 12 months.

Homes and holidays seem to be the most likely areas to ben-



Windfall: Some payouts be used for home improvements

efit from the summer boom as recipients choose between spending their £1,000-plus sums on a holiday or installing a new kitchen.

payment and extra investments seems a less popular option.

Travel agents and builders are not the only winners in the Summer of Money. The total cost to building societies and insurance companies of converting their status is around £480m. of which the Post Africe will probably receive around \$50m in mail shots alone.

Other costs include new com City. One conservative estimate is that around £100m in fees will be shared around various advisers, including merchant banks. brokers, lawyers, accountants and public relations firms.

Some high-fivers will pick this work, some perhaps up to a £1m. The prospects for staff & Paines, who have won work on four of the conversions, and brokers Cazenove & Co, who are working on three, are es-

The directors of the societies and firms at the centre of the conversions will not be losers either, as their pay, probably linked to profits, is likely to rise steeply. However, with the

exception of the Alliance & Leicester, whose chief executive Peter White has an option on 125,704 shares (at 533p each) in three years, none of the com-panies have plans to award its

directors free shares or options. Yet the money spent in the City on the changes is dwarfed by the huge sums cascading into

people's accounts this year. A recent survey from the insurance company Legal & General predicts that, in descending order, money will be spent on holidays, home improvements and furniture.

And in the latest test of consumer confidence for the European Commission, market researchers GFK have found a significant leap in public optimism. In their report, economist Ben Sanderson, of Nottingham Trent University, says: "There is interesting evidence which suggest that consumers may spend rather than save these share handouts."

Steve Radley, chief economist for the Henley Centre for Forecasting, predicted an exciting period ahead, with an 'unprecedented" amount of money available to consumers.

"People generally are more cautious nowadays but at some time there's a need for luxury and the windfall fulfils that

He said there was also a feeling that the injection of money could help kickstart the housing market, and that some people have postponed moving until they receive money which can help pay fees.

A spokeswoman for Thomson Holidays said the company had brought out its 1998 summer brochures deliberately to attract those with bonuses.

She said sales were already "encouraging" but thought the main business may come after the impending Halifax and Norwich Union share outs. "We are hoping for - and expecting - a surge (in business) when the payments are released later this year.

Market research indicated that of those who will spend their extra money - much of it within a year - 51 per cent will spend it on holidays, she said. B&Q, the country's largest

DIY chain, said sales were already healthy, but hoped it would benefit from any extra spending. "We are confident puters and extra staff, but the that some of the money will go single biggest winners will be the on home improvements and hopeful that a chunk [of the windfall payments] will come to us," said a spokeswoman.

Stephen Moon, director of the National Federation of Builders, said its research showed the amount of work on up imge bonuses next year for home improvements was still in decline. "It's a long overdue area of expansion." He said peoat law firms such as Linklaters ple had clearly delayed their repair and improvement work and he was confident that some would use their windfalls for

> A spokesman for the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said it was still unclear what impact the new money would have on sales though they expected the private car busi-

#### Winners and losers in a modern-day game of Monopoly £5,000 for

no effort

Derek Grant (below) opened his first savings account with Norwich Union at the age of four. There was never a hard choice in the matter: his late father worked there as a fund manager, while his brother is still employed by the company.

In two weeks' time, follow-ing in his family's footsteps will net him 1,300 free shares worth up to £5,000, when Norwich Union becomes the first UK mutual insurer to seek a stockmarket flotation.

His free shares form part of a payout from Norwich Union worth an estimated £3bn to its 2.4 million policyholders. The minimum payment of 150 shares will go to unit-linked policies. With-profits members will receive 300 shares, worth up to £1,000, with more paid



according to the amount and length of time invested.

His shares are not the only cash benefit he has received from Norwich Union. When Mr Grant, a senior systems consultant with Siemens Plessey, bought his first home in Ryde, on the Isle of Wight in the late 1970s, he took out two of the company's endowment policies to help to pay off his mortgage.

When they mature later this year, they will earn him £29,000, easily paying off his £10,000 loan. He and his wife plan to use part of the surplus from the maturing policies to visit their daughter, who is studying in St Petersburg.
The cash payout means he

has no need to sell his Norwich Union shares. "We are also planning to make use of the 25p a share discount available to members and buy a further £3,000-worth of shares. The company has delivered as far as I am concerned," Mr Grant said.



#### **Error costs** £1,500

The Halifax, on the other hand, has not delivered anything quite so tasty to lan Strang (below) and his wife Marjorie. They have discovered that a tiny error with one of their accounts will deprive them of an esti-mated £1,500 in free shares.

The Strangs, who live on a houseboat in London, have a Halifax mortgage on a home in Stockport. They have also held a savings account with the society, set to float on Monday, for more than 13 years.

Estimates suggest each share could be worth up to £7.20, with average payments to members from the £16bn conversion reaching £2,000. The Strangs might have been in line for £2,900. Except that, many years ago, the couple signed a standing



order form allowing the society to withdraw mortgage payments from their account on the 27th of each month. Despite this, payments were always taken on the 1st or 2nd

of the following month.
Until December last year, when the Halifax set the 31st as the date when society members had to have a minimum of £100 on deposit to qualify for free shares. On this occasion the Halifax took its mortgage on the day it was entitled to, leaving the Strangs with less than £100 in their account. "We don't even talk about it any longer because it just makes us so angry," said Mr Strang last night. Similar rules have have de-

prived many tens of thousands of members, including second signatories who are mentally or physically handicapped, of their potential entitlement, one reason why the rest will receive such generous share entitlements.

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### The Nationwide could be the next to yield

Personal Finance Editor

More than 5 million members of Nationwide, the largest building society still committed to mutuality, will vote - albeit in-directly - next month on whether they want to join in the conversion bonanza that could net them up to £1,500 of free shares each.

Nationwide members voting to elect their main board will be able to choose among five rebel candidates from Members for Conversion, a group cam-paigning for the society to float on the stock market.

The vote is a key test for Nationwide. If the five, who include Michael Hardern, a veteran pro-conversion campaigner, are elected or even come close to winning seats on the board, the society would come under heavy pressure to change course and prepare for flotation.

A Nationwide spokesman said: "We are a democratic organisation and members have a right to choose those whom they to be nearer £2,000."

in terms of their Members for Conversion's ability to act as directors. They do not appear to have any experience in manag-ing this sort of organisation." The Nationwide's decision

would in turn have critical implications for other pro-mutual societies, including Bradford & Bingley, Britannia and York-shire. They have all defended the benefits of mutuality, pointing to the large "loyalty" bonuses, involving higher savings rates and lower mortgages, they now pay to their members.

As long as any share handou s worth between £800 and £1,000, the mutuals could argue their payouts would match that amount over six or seven years

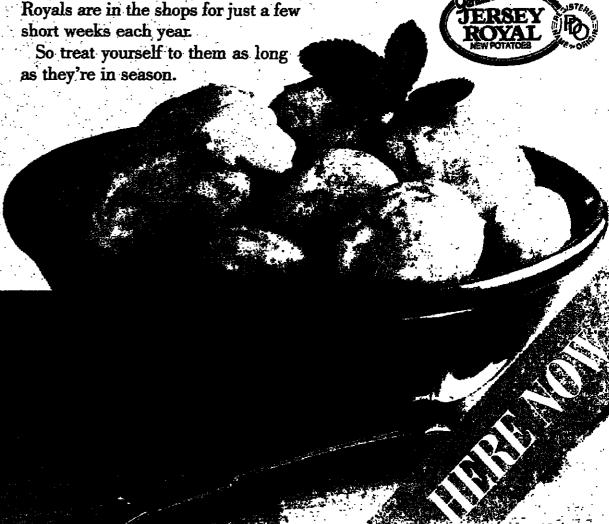
In recent weeks, rocketing share prices in the banking sec tor have altered the issue. Mr Hardern said: There is no mystery why 97 per cent majorities have voted for building society conversions when asked especially when what was billed as £1,000 in free shares turns out

# E REW POTATOES Flavour of the month

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# .. but interest rates are the cloud on the horizon

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

If every silver lining has its cloud, with this year's consumer windfalls it is the prospect that the Bank of England will raise the cost of borrowing again next week to stop the national spending spree getting out of hand. If it does, those £1,000

an extra £10 a month on the typlast autumn assuming that people would save the bulk of the handouts they got in the form of shares from building societies joining the stockmarket, and would spend perhaps a tenth of it. But opinion surveys, and the first couple of flotations, indicate that up to one-third of the

money will be spent. size of the total windfall have unemployment, and a strong re-

grown to stand at about £29bn

extra flowing into high street tills during the next two years, compared to an annual consumer spending total of £470bn.

A quarter of the Halifax's beneficiaries have said they will sell their shares immediately, making that £3bn-4bn burning cheques will carry the penalty of a hole in people's pockets next

al mortgage. "This is free money. It's there Most economists started out to be spent," said Ciarán Barr, an economist at City investment bank Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. "We run the risk of an outright boom. But the authorities will be much faster to react by raising interest rates than they were in the late 1980s."

The risk of a consumer boom arises because the share windfalls are arriving on top of ris-In addition, estimates of the ing real incomes, falling

covery in the housing market. Michael Dicks, a City expert That could mean £10bn at Lehman Brothers, estimates that £10bn extra will "leak" into consumer spending from rising house prices alone.

If there is a single symbol that captures the risk of an impending Eighties-style boom, it is that two of the fastestexpanding retail chains are specialist candle shops and coffee hars selling £1.80 cappucines.
Although the big high street retailers complain that shoppers

remain very cost-conscious, and their business is certainly not booming the official figures show that we are starting to spend our money much faster on some items. "Big ticket" items like computers and furnimre have done well, so have meals out and leisure activities.

Yet it is a safe prediction that

the Bank of England, exercis-

ing its new independence, will

not let things get out of hand this time. Its recent Inflation Report indicated a clear preference for further rate rises, and soon.

Mortgage lenders would be likely to follow another move by the Bank, perhaps as early as next Friday, adding up to £10 a month to the typical £50,000 mortgage. This would follow a similar increase earlier this

How much further loan costs would have to go will depend on how much the beneficiaries of all this free money decide to spend in the end.

It might be that most of us will decide to splurge only £100 of our £1,000 cheque - that would buy 56 fancy cappucinos or a hundred scented beeswax candles - and put the rest away for a rainy day. But if spending starts to race away, the Bank will be swift to apply the interest rate

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#### Woman ignored Aids risk, Cyprus trial told Mrs Pink said in her evidence that she had been told by Mr Georgiou, despite protests that The Cypriot fisherman accused Georgiou that his wife was dy-

lan Burreli

by his former British lover of knowingly giving her Aids told police investigating the case that she already had the virus.

Pavlos Georgiou said in a written statement that divorcee Janette Pink insisted that they have unprotected sex even after she knew that he was HIV positive, the district court in Lanarca, Cyprus, was told. "In my opinion, only a woman who is also a carrier of Aids would do this." he said in his statement. Mrs Pink, 45, alleged last

week that Mr Georgiou, 40, had lied to her that he did not have the virus when they began an affair shortly after she went to live on the Greek island in 1993.

produced as part of the prose-

Tassos Economou, for the defence, said police had only taken a statement because of pressure brought by the British government for his client to be charged. He said the fisherman was told by police officers that the statement was a formality to close the case, and was taken without the police having reasonable suspicion or testimony linking Mr Georgiou with the al-legations made by Mrs Pink. The objections were over-

ruled by Judge Antonis Liatsos, who said that the statement had been given willingly.

Mr Georgiou told police:
"Anyone who says that I had sex

with Janette Pink without her knowing I was HIV positive is a liar." He said that both his

daughter and his mother-in-law had told Mrs Pink he was an Aids carrier and that his wife

ing from leukaemia.

In his statement, Mr Georgiou said that Mrs Pink knew he had Aids before there was sexual contact. He did not tell her he was HIV-positive when they first met, but later when she asked him what had been said to her by his daughter and mother-in-law, he said he was an Aids carrier.

He said he was surprised by her allegations, which he read in newspapers. "Janette knew I was an Aids carrier and continued to be with me."

Mr Georgiou tested HIV-positive in June 1992 after his wife told him she had the virus. He and Mrs Pink continued to have sex without precautions and at the beginning of 1996 she

mention that before Janette became prognant she had tested positive at a clinic."

He said doctors advised her to have a termination as it was likely her child would be born with Aids. She followed their ad-

vice and had an abortion in Nicosia. Earlier yesterday, Aids spe-cialist Dr Athenoula Neou supported Mrs Pink's earlier evidence that she did not have

the virus during the early part of the relationship. Dr Neou told the court Mrs Pink visited her in March 1994 requesting a test for Aids and venereal disease. Both were negative. She returned to the same clinic six months later, but this time the test was positive.

The trial was adjourned un-

# Law fails disabled, says police officer

Michael Hanion

for quick prosecutions dis-suades the authorities from fol-

for the mentally handicapped in Stoke Poges, Berkshire.

more than 40 of the 70 disabled adults living in the homes over a period of 11 years. They will

Speaking on the BBC Radio 4 programme Does He Take Sug-ar? last night, DC Stewart said the law made it difficult to bring prosecutions against those accused of abusing people with learning difficulties. She said Service and the police were reluctant to take on such cases.

"They know that the law does not protect these people. They can only work with the law as it exists," she said. Alun Michael, the Home Of-

fice minister responsible for criminal policy, promised a review of the way people with learning difficulties were treated by the courts.

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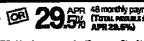
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# Lottery chiefs on a roll for nore bonuses Steve Boggan an average 40 per cent last year in one case 90 per cent when leaked figures showed an average 40 per cent ast year in one case 90 per cent when leaked figures showed an average 40 per cent ast year in one case 90 per cent when leaked figures showed an average 40 per cent ast year in one case 90 per cent when leaked figures showed an average 40 per cent ast year in one case 90 per cent and sir George Russell, chairman of Camelot.

Camelor was embroiled in a new fat-cat row last night after it ad-mitted that its directors were heading for another two bonuses this year, despite bringing in

less money for good causes.

The National Lottery organiser told *The Independent* that its top executives would be paid 43 per cent of their salaries as bonuses next month, with a further 35 per cent to follow in October, for their performances in the year ending March 1997

—a year in which profits fell from
£51.1m to £46.8m.

The Government reacted with fury yesterday to the news that directors' pay increased by

the company's contribution to good causes was set to fall from £1.416bn to £1.272bn.

Camelot countered that the big pay rises included bonuses based on its performance in 1995-96, when sales topped £4.7bn. The bonuses, it said, were paid last June - a year in arrears - but were in recognition of the success of that year.

However, when pressed over the honuses to come in June for the poorer performance in 1996-97, a company spokeswoman said they would amount to 43 per cent. That, she said, was down from 50 per cent in recognition of the lower profits. "We were set targets independently shortly after winning the franchise," she said. "These bonuses relate to those targets."

A remuneration committee, comprising Jeremy Marshall, chief executive of shareholders De la Rue; Jim Butler, 68, a former senior partner at accountants KPMG Peat Marwick: and Mary Baker. 60, wife of Kenneth Baker, the former home secretary, was responsible for determining pay and bonuses, the spokeswoman said.

The revelations are likely to make for a stormy meeting on

year - in one case 90 per cent all Heritage, and Sir George all Heritage, and Sir George Russell, chairman of Camelot. So incensed was Mr Smith by last year's pay rises that he summoned Mr Russell to his office yesterday. However, Mr. Russell is in Canada and is now expected to attend on Monday.

A spokesman for the Department of National Heritage said Mr Smith had been unaware of the latest set of bonuses before he warned that he was considering terminating Cam-elot's contract to run the lottery before it runs out in 2001.

before it runs out in 2001.
"I am going to say very clearly [at the meeting] that the very key message that the National Lottery is for the prizewinners and for the good causes." Mr Smith said. "It is not for profiteering. I am very angry indeed."

Camelot said directors' pay had been independently assessed and was in line with the market rate. Last year, David Rigg, communications director, was given a 90 per cent pay rise, from £175,000 to £333,000: Tim Holley, chief executive, received a 53 per cent increase to £590,000: David Clark, director of operations, got a 42.8 per cent rise to £347,000; and Peter Murphy, who deals with legal matters, tax and payouts, saw his pay rise by 76 per cent to £361,000.

## Vitamin study shows millions need daily help

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

Unrecognised vitamin deficiency may be affecting millions of people because their genetic make-up affects their capacity to absorb nutrients from lood, scientists say.

Nutritionists may have to rethink their advice on vitamins. which is based on recommended daily levels for a normal person, because there may be no took the view that anyone who such thing as a "normal" pop- ate a normal balanced diet did needs, according to researchers I no longer think that. We know

at Trinity College, Dublin. A study of one vitamin, folic acid, has shown that one in eight people in Britain have a genetic mutation which reduces their capacity to absorb it from food. Folic acid, contained in green vegetables and as an additive in many breakfast cereals, is essential for women in pregnancy to prevent spina bifida and related birth defects, and is also believed to protect against

heart disease. Tests on 500 women showed that those with mutant copies of the gene that controls the absorption of folate by the body had significantly lower levels of the vitamin in their tissues. The gene codes for an enzyme that enables the folate to act

within the cells and the mutant version greatly reduces the ef-ficiency of the enzyme. The less efficient the enzyme, the greater the quantity of folic acid required in the diet.

Professor John Scott, head of the department of biochemistry at Trinity College, who led the research team, said the findings reported in the Lancet, had changed his attitude to vitamin supplements. "Until recently I people have differences in the way they metabolise drugs but this is the first time anyone has shown that people have differ-

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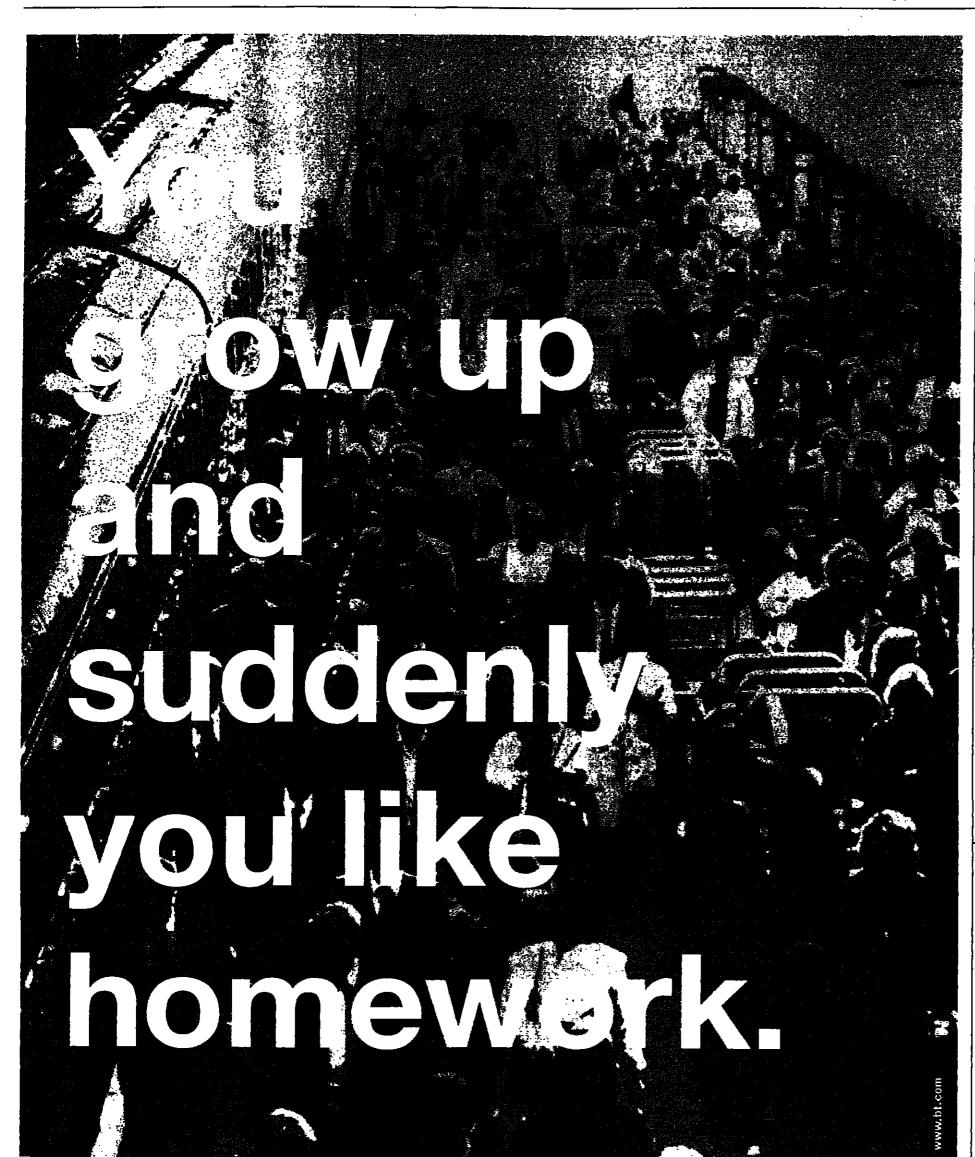
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TPOEM

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ing requirements for autrients." The findings will strengthen the argument for adding folate to the national diet as introduced in the US. More than eight out of ten women who have spina bifida babies consume normal levels of folate but if those are increased to "high normal" levels they can cut their risk of a subsequent spina bifida baby tenfold, from eight

per 1000 births to 0.8. Professor Scott said it was likely that people's capacity to absorb other vitamins such as A, C and D could be affected by other genetic mutations.



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# Unlikely partners to reform schools

Education Correspondent

A school improvement group widely revered by the education establishment and a government inspector regarded as a bogeyman by teachers are being brought together on a new school standards tasks force being unveiled today.

David Bhinkett, the Secretary of State for Education and Employment, is to announce that Professor Tim Brighouse. director of education in Birmingham, and the chief inspector of schools, Chris Woodhead, will be appointed vice-chairmen of the new body charged with spearheading the Government's standards drive.

The task force will be responsible for identifying and promoting "what works" in state education, senior government sources said yesterday in line with Labour's intention to banish dogma and division in the crusade for higher education standards.

The combination of Professor Brighouse, whose wideranging educational initiatives have impressed teachers in his authority, and Mr Woodhead, a hate-figure among the pro-fession after claiming 15,000 teachers were incompetent, will astonish many.

Professor Brighouse, who won an out-of-court libel victory over John Patten after the former Tory education secretary branded him "a nutter", is a long-standing critic of the schools' inspection regime under Ofsted,

the schools' watchdog body headed by Mr Woodhead.

At an education debate in January, Professor Brighouse spoke of a "massive Ofsted caravan which is rushing around the country" and added: "We are living in a reign of terror."

The chief inspector's appointment to the task force, to be chaired by Mr Blunkett, is being seen by some observers as a means of limiting his capacity to criticise government education policy. His outspoken attack on teachers under the previous administration prompted accusations of politically motivated interference from teachers and the education establishment and embarrassed

was secretary of state. Don Foster, the Liberal De-mocrats' education spokesman, described the appointment as "a clear attempt to rein in the chief inspector". He said it was an attempt to bring him into the fold and ensure that "before he makes any of his over-the-top remarks he is required to discuss

Gillian Shephard, when she

them with other senior people and this must be to the good of other people". News of Mr Woodhead's role provoked outrage among head-teachers last night. At the Na-tional Association of Head Teachers' conference in Scarborough, North Yorkshire, the union's general secretary, David Hart, said that the announce-

Morning service: Children at the Royal School, in Windsor, Berkshire, praying at morning assembly

Photograph: John Lawrence

Heads seek end to daily prayers

Headfeachers yesterday challenged the Government to end schools' obligation to

hold a daily religious assembly, writes Lucy Ward. Delegates at the National Association of Head Teachers conference called for the law requiring a daily act of mainly Christian collective worship to be revised in consultation with teachers, governors and religious groups. Forcing schools to hold morning prayers was a "hypocritical act" which could do more harm than good.

The demand, supported, with only one dissenting voice, reinforced longstanding opposition among heads and teachers to the legislation on worship in schools. Many schools quietly break the law on a daily basis, partly through reservations over the value of religious assemblies and partly through practical difficulties particularly in secondary schools in gathering all pupils

together in a hall at once. Simon Marsh, head of St Mary Magdalene School in Islington, north London, said worship was by definition "a voluntary act of homage. praise and love freely given to

the God one serves". He added: "I am convinced that to enforce a hypocritical act does more harm to faith than anything else."

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emment if attempts to drive up standards in schools are to sucment would be regarded like a ceed. He said the sum was need-"red rag to a bull", which risked ed to bring the UK in line with undermining the work of the new the average spent on education task force in the eyes of the in other developed countries. the average spent on education

The education director and 'bogeyman' have their say Sayings of Brighouse: 1988: "Of course you really believe in social justice and in kids escaping from mental alavery ... you have to provide

"It really can't be right that people can buy for their children more resource to ole them to be more able citizens. Children do have equal rights to become mature and

1995: "Perhaps this is a naive view, but I believe that everyone who goes into teaching or is involved in teaching wants to change the world for the

"Every political party is interested in school improvement and this is the major time on the aducational agenda generally. How to keep schools on an upward spiral of achievement will help any party that has school improvergents on its political agends."

Sayings of Woodhead: self-confidence are important. But there's a crucial distinction een self-confidence and self-delusion. There is no point in having a teaching force high in morale but not teaching children



teaching profession. However, he

described Professor Brighouse's

"The problem lies not with head teachers but with people who purport to speak for the teaching partial way of thinking.

Their whole ecademic status and credibility is now being questioned. Local authorities understandably nsive about their record. But the head

There can be no solution until the problems are acknowledged. For the first time, parents have access to reports at individual schools and are, therefore, in a position to make an informed choice about the school that is right for their child ...."



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# Labour implements its first closure

The Government yesterday approved the shutting down of the first school on the ailing list to be closed since the general election. St Richard of Chichester Ro-

man Catholic Secondary School, in Camden, north London, has been under special measures with little sign of improvement after failing its inspection three years ago and plans to shut it were due to be approved by Gillian Shephard, the former secretary of state, for education when the election was called.

Against a Rat

By John Heath-Stubbs

So just git!

Ramus nonvegicus, your name disgraces The homeland of Ibsen and of Grieg.

Dishonoured by piles of foetid garbage. Bones of chickens that never saw Kennucky,

Greass chip-papers, half-eaten hamburgers,

Creep buck to the sewers you've come from If your myslodyte brothers there will accept you.

I'll bandy no more verses with you, you git -

Only the inside of a battery-prison,

All the detritus of fast, so-called food.

But you came sneaking out of Tartary
In the stinking holds of Muscory ships,
And now you inhabit dishonoured London -

The school will not close unments in standards of pupil til the end of the summer term next year, but most of the 254 achievement to restore it to pupils will be sent to neigh-bouring schools in September. health, and had lost the support of the local Catholic community Those currently on GCSE over the past five years. courses will stay to take their ex-Camden LEA and the school

Camden local education authority cited unacceptable educational standards and rapidly falling rolls at the school when it sought government permission last January to close.

ams in a year's time.

DAILY POEM

The Schools' Standards Minister, Stephen Byers, yesterday said the school had failed to

inspection agency Ofsted felt the closure would help to raise educational standards throughout Camden, Mr Byers said. Government approval just a month after the election showed ministers were prepared to act "with the utmost rigour" to ensure that all children received a high-quality

> tain schools simply for the sake Persistent failure in our schools cannot be tolerated and there is clear evidence that St Richard of Chichester has let its pupils down. It has failed to raise standards through three years of drift. The closure of this school will allow a better education for all its pupils because they have only once chance of

education. "We shall not main-

a decent education." Camden's director of education. Bob Litchfield, welcomed the clearance for closure, saying the decision removed a "cloud of uncertainty hovering over the school." The authority would continue to provide parents with support, help and advice in finding places in other schools in Camden and sur-

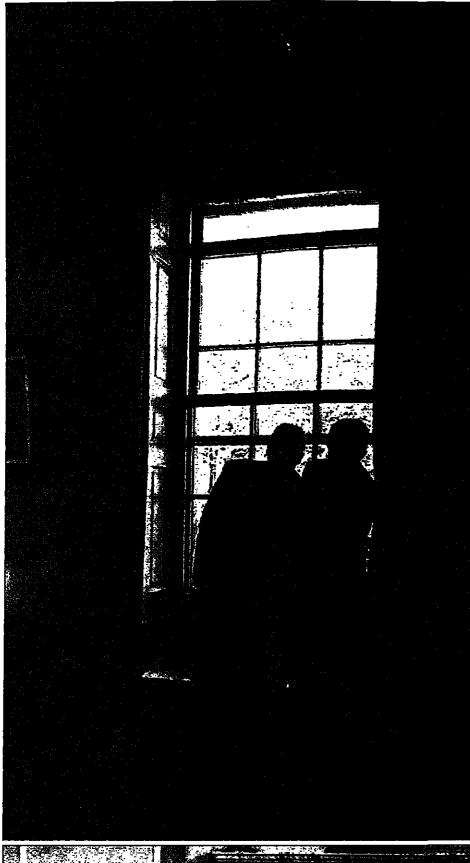
Camden invested substantial

rounding boroughs, he said.



"Against a Rat" comes from the "Ninefold of Charms" series in John Heath-Stubbs's The Torriano Sequences: - work, mostly "light poems", that he first performed at the Torriano Arts extra funds in St Richard of Meeting House in Kentish Town, north London. The other Lines are open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm. To assist us in improving our service we may record or monitor Chichester, spending £500 per "charms designed for modern contingencies" include one "For calls. The minimum investment is £2,000. A Bonus of 1% gross p.a. will be payable on accounts until 31.7.97. From 1.8.97 the interest rate will pupil more than any other sec-Unblocking the Sink" and one "To Discourage a Spider from Getting into the Bath". The Torriano Sequences, with pictures by Emily Johns, is published by Hearing Eye at £9.99 and disondary school in the borough. revert to our standard Investor 90 rate. Rates may vary. Until 31.12.97 if the average base rate of all UK Clearing Banks is increased, the annual gross interest rate payable will be increased by no less than that increase. 6.55% gross p.a. is payable on balances of £200,000 or over. See leaflet for full However, pupil numbers fell from 633 in January 1994 to 400 conditions. You may be able to register with us to receive interest gross; otherwise it will be paid not of income tax at the prescribed rate. Abbey in September 1996, only to plummet further by this summer. tributed by Airlift Book Company. National and the Umbrella Couple symbol are trademarks of Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London, NW1 6XL, United Kingdom,

# First Ladies face the bear pit







Once more unto the breach: Hillary Clinton and Cherie Blair take their places in the Gentlemen's Room at the Globe theatre yesterday where they stayed for two acts of *Henry V*. The women are said to have got on well and discussed a wide range of subjects

Photograph: Reuters

# Two politician's wives - but not the mirror image they might seem

"O for a Muse of fire!" declaimed the Prologue, and we few, we unhappy few backs de-tailed to First Lady duty sighed in sympathy. The frock-watch on official visits is an unenviable task. Hours waiting outside Number 10 had delivered a few First Lady waves, a few smiles, but nothing more than that for the fiery muse to feed on. (Hillary wore powder blue. Cherie dove grey with satin reveres - that's all you'll get about the frocks.)

Hours waiting outside the new Globe theatre in Southwark offered just a couple more waves as the two ladies stepped inside. A long wait among the groundlings in the pit finally gave us a good long look at them up there in their box by the stage, the Gentlemen's Room, where in days of yore Elizabethan beaux sat to be looked at. And look we did while the Prologue was granted "monarchs to behold the swelling scene". The monarchs, however, only stayed for the first two acts of Mark Rylance's brilliant *Henry V*.



They spent some six hours of the day together, so what did they talk about? In their box where we could watch them, poor Cherie seemed forced to make all the conversational running, while Hillary wore her Prozac look, as if she'd been knocked down, drugged and stuffed in the process of transforming a clever independent woman into an obedient royal mannequin. Will the embalmers get to Cherie too? No. She has Hillary's example as a lighthouse warning of all the fatal rocks upon which poor Hillary's ship has crashed.

But yes, there was one flash of animation between them when Cheric caught sight of a familiar face in the crowd and

pit. Her eye had fallen upon that veteran warrior of the Daily Mail. Ann Leslie, who was gazing up alarmingly, inspecting their every pore and blemish through a ministure pair of KGB surplus hinoculars. Now here was something the two women do have in common.

Did Cherie tell Hillary of the stream of poison from the Leslie pen? On the subject of Hillary, Leslie has written: "Doesn't this exhaustingly combative, unbearably confident little blonde know when she's beaten?" She has mocked her Sherman tank", "the Superwife from Hell", "the White House Jezebel" and concluded "Slick Willie's Lady Macbeth has at last got her comeuppance!" Cherie no doubt has worse to

come, but so far from Leslie she has drawn "gob-stopper eyes and frightened little chihuahua smiles" and quotes from unnamed sources calling her "a bit charmless, lacking in charisma. rather doggedly serious". Yes, they do have in common

pointed down at we hacks in the the abuse and ribaldry a lot of laughter and they disdue to most politicians wives. But otherwise the superficial similarities between the two first ladies are deceptive, shot through with the same fatal mistake the British always make about Americans, assuming a common language means we are not foreigners to one another. To be sure, both women are successful lawyers married to top politicians - but otherwise the Atlantic, and what seems in effect like a generation, yawns

between them. The Christian clean-living Blairs of the Labour Party are Cherie no doubt long ago di-"chunky legs", her "psyche of a a world apart from the Clintons of the Arkansas Democrats. All those who sneered during our election that Blair would be "just another Clinton" have been proved wrong.

Inside Number 11, Hillary met the Blair children. The ladies lunched together with Lyndsay, Cherie's sister, on the sort of meal ladies who lunch tend to eat: sea bass with salad. followed by lemon tart with berries. Said an aide, "It was warm, they got on well, there was cial cultures.

cussed a wide range of subjects." Now what lessons might Cherie have learned from her guest? Don't give up vour day job. Never give an interview. Gaze adoringly at your husband on all occasions, but zip your lip. Don't parade your children what a spectacle poor Chelsea's growing up has been. Don't write a soppy book about children with chapter headings like "Kids Don't Come With Instructions". And don't try your hand at reorganising the NHS on your own. All these lessons vined, so perhaps she will survive Hillary's terrible fate and

tolerated, if not loved. The two couples dined together at Pont de la Tour, a Conran restaurant near Tower Bridge. No doubt the warmth between them is sincere, but these couples are not the mirror-images they seem, nor are their politics as alike as their rhetoric appears, operating in two such alien political and so-

manage to remain human and

# Howard attacks Tory frenzy for new direction

**Anthony Bevins** Political Editor

Michael Howard vesterday delivered an apparent attack on Kenneth Clarke, the current favourite for next month's Conservative leadership contest.

The former Chancellor said in his first speech of the campaign on Wednesday that the Tories needed a Blair-style over- new faces, new policies, new

the widest possible participation in a new Conservatism

servative Bow Group meeting in London vesterday that there was a worrying trend in British politics - "an almost frenzied obsession with novelty".

He added: "New Labour,

became "the instrument for that conclusion, only one thing is certain: new Disaster. Because the analysis is wrong.

But Mr Howard told a Con-The former Home Secretary said Labour's remodelling had worked because a left-wing party had been dressed up as rightwing. It had worked because the substitute for an extremely unpopular Conservative Party appeared to be almost as

pundits have been telling us that the only way back for the Con-

just as he dismissed another or it is nothing

statement made by Mr Clarke on Wednesday: "The Conserv-

Mr Howard said yesterday: Independent as a supporter of ed endorsement of Mr Clarke. my book for America. I need

structures... new Tory? Taken to Conservative as the Conserva- "We have to win power, but Mr Clarke-coming out with an tives. "Ever since, the media power is not the end either. The end is the good government of Britain. And if we ever forget servatives is to ape Labour." that – as we were, I believe un-fairly, thought to have done recently - we will never hold

> ative Party is a party of power, vesterday, with Michael Ancram was thought to be a reference mistakenly identified by The

office again."

endorsement for William Hague. A member of Mr Hague's team said that the former Northern Ireland minister was just what they wanted - a senior figure who was going furtheir rather than an old hand The campaign began to move who was on his way out. That

to Michael Heseltine's expect-

tender, yesterday used the visit of President Bill Clinton to underline his own brand of Euro-scepticism, saving that the American alliance was essential. But he added a warning for the President: "Do not think you can put a single number in your book for Europe. I know I can't put a single number in

City. You need one for London Berlin and for Paris."

Mr Redwood said that Britain's role was to provide a voice of commonsense in Europe. "Not to disengage, but not to accept dictation. We must not turn our backs on our continent. but we must not let them turn their backs on the rest of the

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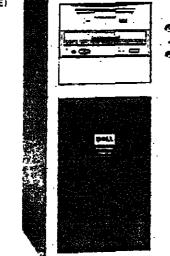
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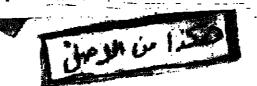
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# Elite forces club kicks out SAS author



A former Army intelligence officer has been thrown out of the élite Special Forces Club in Knightsbridge, west London, because of his involvement in writing books about the SAS. The move is part of a backlash against a wave of books on the SAS which senior members of the regiment

believe is stripping away its mystique. Based in an Edwardian townhouse in a quiet street behind Harrods, the mysterious SFC is at the forefront of a campaign to protect the last remaining secrets of the special forces units.

Adrian Weale, a leading military historian, was expelled after a 40-minute dressing down by a disciplinary committee of the club - which only takes members who have served units. Mr Weale, 33, acted as an ad-

forces operative, whose book One Up, A Woman in Action with the SAS, caused great controversy when it was published in March.

The behind-the-scenes account of a woman's experience of special forces operations in Northern Ireland proved too much for some members of the SAS establishment.

Mr Weale was accused of conduct "construed as incompatible with membership" and summoned before the SFC committee this month. "The hearing was Kafkaesque, none of them would introduce themselves," he said. "The complaint had nothing to do with breaches of national security but that the book had upset people who might be

drinking next to me in the bar." He said that the book had been in special operations or intelligence closely verted by the Ministry of De- and was deputy chief of British infence and did not disclose opera-

problems, he said, were caused by the book's disclosures on infidelity. "It was embarrassing for people who were cheating on their wives.

Colonel Edward Toms, chairman of the club, and nine unidentified committee members, warned Mr. Weale that his actions had upset other members. They refused to tell him exactly what the complaint against him was or who had made it.

Mr Weale, who has been a member of the club for three years, said: "I am the only person who has ever been thrown out for involvement in a book. It is a slur on my character

Mr Weale joined the Intelligence Corps as a cadet and after Sandhurst was posted to Northern Ireland. He later worked for Naval intelligence telligence in Belize, working along-

viser to Sarah Ford, a female special tionally sensitive information. The side MI6 and the CIA. He has written four military books, the subject matter of which include war crimes by British troops in the Falklands and Britons who fought for the Nazis in

the Second World War. The rush of books on the SAS began with the publication of Storm Command by General Sir Peter de la Billière, the former SAS soldier who was the most senior British officer in the Gulf War. It was followed by Andy McNab's Bravo Two Zero. which gave a first-hand account of an eight-man patrol behind Iraqi lines, and made an estimated £5m. Mr Mc-Nab and General de la Billière have

retained their SFC membership. Earlier this year, the Ministry of Defence wrote to two dozen military authors, banning them from visiting army bases in case they attempted

to gather material for future books. Mr Weale, however, has already

completed his next book about the SAS. Secret Warfare - Special Operations Forces from the Great Game to the SAS aims to be a definitive study of special forces and will be published later in the summer.

Chris Moorhouse, assistant sec-retary of the club, said: "What happens in the club is purely confidential to the club. Mr Weale met the committee and they explained it all to

The Special Forces Club was set up in 1946 by members of Special Operations Executive which fought in the Second World War. The club motto is "The Spirit of Resistance".

Mr Weale said: "The club was set up to embody the spirit of resistance to the likes of Nazi Germany and Imperialist Japan and yet goes round chucking people out for books on the basis of an anonymous denunciation. I find that a supreme irony."

# A nasty, brutish and short life for the pig that went to market

Jojo Moyes

A harrowing video featuring pigs, cattle and sheep being kicked, beaten and even dropped from lorries while at market formed the basis of a new report launched by Animal Aid yesterday.

A Brutal Business, an investigation into the treatment of animals at livestock auctions, revealed that animals are routinely abused on their way to slaughterhouses. The evidence was compiled over four years from 36 markets by volunteer welfare

The video showed sheep packed so tightly into pens that the bars were clearly embedded in their sides; pigs being kicked in the head; terrified lambs pony so terrified that it repeatof its pen in an effort to escape.

Against the "calm, competent, unhurried handling of persons, used to dealing with livestock" required by the industry code of practice, the film showed men throwing sheep down a ramp of a truck. and in another case dropping them four or five feet from a platform. One man was shown screaming at and hitting pigs he was herding, while another kicked a sheep in a fit of temper after it failed to load.

Julia Gardner, a volunteer monitor in East Anglia, displayed a selection of sticks with pointed metal prongs at the end "commonly and legally used" in markets and abattoirs.

"We prod them, we poke them until they're totally confused and don't know where they're supposed to go, then we call them stupid," she said. "I think the real problem with markets is the indifference and total disregard for animals. We don't credit them with feelings
- we treat them like potatoes."

The Labour MP Ken Livingstone said the video, a previous version of which is now used to help to train trading standards officers, was "the best advertisement for vegetarianism" he had seen.

"I wouldn't mind betting what we've seen is not one-hundredth of what is going on," he said. "If the RSPCA comes across someone who's abusing their dog in a house they are prosecuted, may even get a prison sentence and huge publicity. Because this is the food industry and so many people have an interest in the profits then there seems to be a different standard."

More than 20 million animals a year pass through the market system. Animal Aid is calling on huddling together; and one—the Government to introduce more humane rules to be adoptedly bashed its head on the side ed at market, or alternative procedures for sales, such as via computer links. It wants to see accredited training for people who handle animals and for existing laws to be strengthened and properly enforced.

It is also calling on the Government to appoint an independent body to inquire into markets across the country. "Those that fail to meet a given standard of welfare should be forced to comply immediately or close," said Steven Tyler, director of the charity.

Margaret Gibbins, a retired estate agent from the Southwest, has been monitoring for three years, having jettisoned her plans for a peaceful retirement. Her grandfather had been a cattle dealer, but she found it "stressful, a great strain", and hated the hostility and suspicion with which mon-

itoring is generally greeted. She said: "I can see markets have always been a great social event for farmers but so have public hangings, and we've moved on from there."



# An everyday tale of suffering in the

One particularly pushy pig pressed her face against the iron gate, squishing her snout under the bottom bar. Was she rooting around for truffles? Not likely. Not at

Banbury market. The sow's need was more basic than that. The yellow, muck-ridden puddle just beyond the pen was the only drinking water in sight. The other pigs had to satisfy their thirst by licking the concrete. In the adjacent unloading bay, a broken drain was

Just as one large sow struggled to free its trapped trotter, another prepared to repeat the fall. The cacophony of terrified screams from inside the barn did not suggest that things were likely to get any better.

The handlers, for their part, were anxious not to put à foot wrong. Following the publication of the Animal Aid report that morning along with a story in the local newspaper about their cruel behaviour, they needed some good press.

To make the point, one handler even unloaded a lorryfull of pies with his arms in the air, as if to say: "Look! No hands." Or sticks, boots, or other inducements. But the sudden, piercing shrieks of pain let out by some pigs as they were ejected from their

vehicle hinted at another story. Some ramps were steep: few had straw. The sheep fared worse than the pigs in this department, however. They spilled out of their lorries like peanuts from a packet. Some transporters had three levels, and the

angle of the ramp leading from the top deck was almost 45 degrees. The sheep skidded to the ground, only returning to the upright as they hit the buffer formed by the queue below.

It was to be a long day for all the animals. The first lorries rattled into the yard at 6.30am and the auction eventually got underway at 9am. Some pigs were audibly distressed. Others took a more passive line, slumped awkwardly in their crates, apparently admitting defeat. Banbury Stockyard, set in

the rural outskirts of the Oxfordshire town of Banbury and reputedly the largest livestock market in Europe, has been subject to undercover inspections by a local Animal Aid volunteer

for the past six months. Barbara, not the volunteer's real name, said of the market vesterday: "Animals are regarded as food commodities, not as sentient beings." She is particularly concerned about the stress suffered by the pigs. "Pigs get very, very stressed," she said. "They travel extremely badly.

Thursday I witnessed two pigs arrive dead. Yesterday's animals were,

at least, alive but whether or not they were well was harder to tell. Just last week, Richard Ivory, from Hemel Hempstead, was fined over £4.500 by Banbury magistrates after pleading guilty to three charges of selling unfit animals. He had sent two pigs who were suffering from abscesses and arthritis and another which was in pain following an injury.

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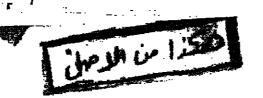
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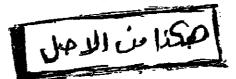


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# K ptalk White line holds back blacks at work

# Entire fire brigade watch shut after racism charge

#### Kim Sengupta

It was, by any standards, a dramatic move. An entire watch of firefighters was disbanded yesterday over allegations of racism. They had, it was claimed, greeted the arrival of a black senior officer with National Front material at the

The development at Eltham fire station, south-east London, has brought into focus a problem which both management and union agree is simmering in the heart of the service.

Nationally, just 1 per cent of brigade employees are from ethnic minorities. In London, the figure is fractionally lower. In the whole of Scotland there is just one black firefighter.

And the vast majority of blacks and Asians who do cross the "white line" report systematic and at times vicious abuse and prejudice. Women too complain of victimisation in the "macho culture" of the service in which they also represent I per cent of the workforce.

don's Burning. The latest incident at Eltham, where seven men of the red watch were implicated, shows the seriousness of the situation in real life, according to concerned union

In this racially sensitive area, where the black teenager Stephen Lawrence was stabbed to death by a gang of white youths, a black sub-officer visiting from nearby Peckham saw racist posters, pictures and other materials. The officer ordered their re-

moval. When he returned 10 minutes later they were still there. A complaint by the subofficer led to a locker search which revealed a photograph of a black Olympic team with a caption calling them muggers, the words "wogs out" stuck to a locker and National Front logos. An "offensive" photograph of disabled people was also

Three members of the red watch were suspended and four others were moved to other

has been disbanded, but the must fight hard as possible to men have all been replaced and the fire cover has not been affected. The brigade will not tolerate racism. Any allegation of misconduct will be investigated fully."

Ken Cameron, general sec-retary of the Fire Brigades Union, which represents 90 per cent of employees in the service, has called for chief fire officers and local management authorities of the service to join a cam-paign to combat racism, as well as sexism, homophobia and bullying. He acknowledged that some of his members "bring

their prejudices to work". The union is holding regular seminars with local authorities and the Home Office on the problems. It has also started a black and other ethnic minorities branch which produces its

FBU national officer Andy Gilchrist said: "There is no point in hiding the fact we have got a problem. We do not like the fact that only I per cent of

highlighted in the television posts. A spokesman for London firefighters are from black and series about firefighters. Lon- Fire Brigade said: "The watch ethnic minorities, and we also stop any discrimination against them. We stress repeatedly the principle of fairness. But there are ingrained prejudices we

> "Some people might say that the reason there are so few firefighters from the ethnic minorities is because it is a physically difficult job. But that is just an excuse. We must get their trust. and show we are against racism."
>
> A Home Office spokeswoman added: "We are an

equal opportunities employer and we fully support anything done to counter racism."

Last month, Asian fireman

Warren Mann successfully sued Gloucestershire Fire Service after suffering racism. He described routine verbal abuse for three years and being ostracised when he complained.

In another case, a confiden tial Home Office report described how a black recruit was struck and had his head phinged into a water tower where he al-

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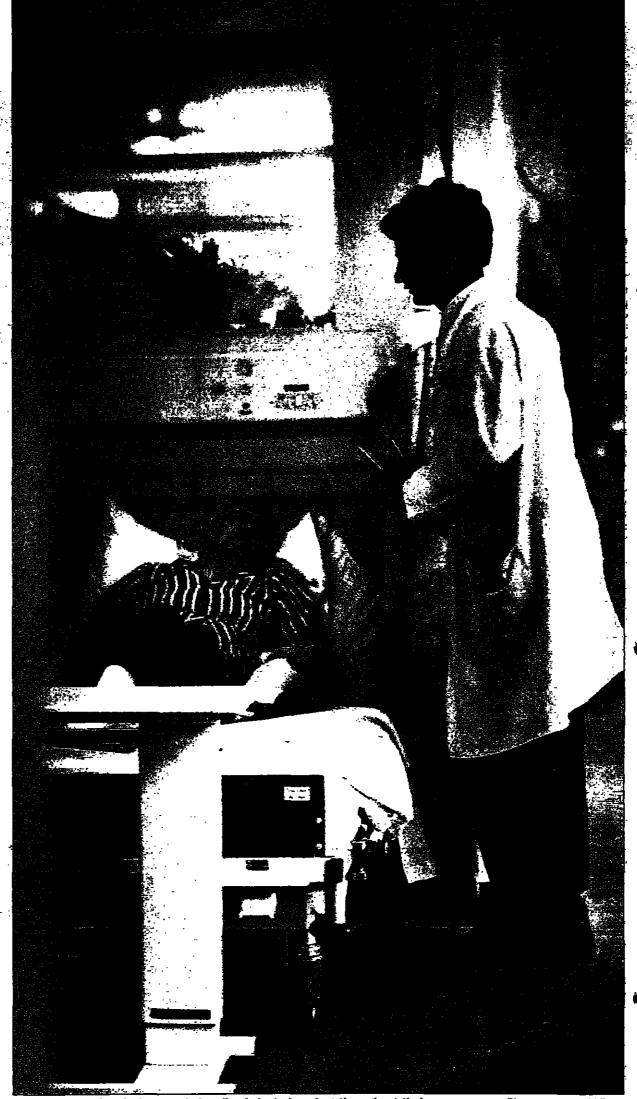
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Name game: Asian doctors are being discriminated against throughout their careers

## Asian name hits doctors' chances

#### **Jeremy Laurance** Health Editor

Medical students seeking jobs as junior hospital doctors can increase their chances of success by almost half if they have an English name, a study has

Asian doctors are still being discriminated against in the jobs market - and all the way up the career ladder - despite pledges by doctors' leaders and employers to deal with racism in the National Health Service, the report's authors sav.

Drs Aneez Esmail and Sam Everington sent matched pairs of applications for 50 advertised hospital jobs covering a wide range of specialties. The appli-cations were identical in all respects except for the name. Of those with Asian names 36 per cent were shortlisted, compared with 52 per cent for those with

English names. The study, a repeat of an earlier one carried out five years ago, showed that discrimination against those with Asian names has not improved and that NHS trusts are failing to monitor the situation despite instructions to do so. Writing in the British Medical Journal, the authors put the blame on the consultants who shortlist candidates. "These consultants have a re-

highest ethical and moral standards, and their employers have the added responsibility to ensure that equal opportunity policies are being implemented and monitored." they say

Dr Everington said other research showed that Asian doctors suffered discrimination throughout their careers. They were less likely to get into medical school, to get a consultant post or a merit award. There was no ethnic minority member of the council of the British Medical Association and none in the top three grades at the Department of Health, he said. Between 25-30 per cent of

minorities, compared with 6 per cent in the general population. Dr Everington said this was a blip owing to the recruitment drive launched in the Indian sub-continent during the 1950s and 1960s to staff the newly founded NHS, and the proportion would start to decline.

doctors are from the ethnic

We have found that highquality doctors are being turned down on the basis of their surname. That means the hospital don't get the best person for the job. We have taken a snapshot of discrimination happening in the NHS, where it happens to be visible, but I have no doubt it is wider than that."

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· Mophiles

E. 25 ...

# It's good to talk – but not in front of the altar

Science Editor

You may not be a member of the board of the lottery company Camelot, but there is an easy way to make yourself just as unpopular, according to research carried out in London: use a mobile phone in the Bar-bican Art Gallery or St Paul's

Pulling out a handheld phone in those locations, and others such as the Victoria & Albert Museum, will earn a rapid reprimand from those around you, and free directions to the exit from security guards if you

Yet Harrods, the department store which last week asked a woman wearing leggings to leave, appears happy to tolerate mobile phone users - despite the presence of large signs on its windows saying "No mo-

The contradiction was turned up by Jim Pickard, a journalist who "set out to make a pest of himself" by using a mobile phone all over the capital, as part of a survey for What Mo-bile? magazine. The outcome is

reported in next month's issue.
"I wasn't looking forward to it but found it was quite easy to be obnoxious, especially once people started giving me dirty looks," he said.

Mr Pickard found that speaking in a loud voice into a mobile near a Gauguin painting in the Barbican Art Gallery was a good way to attract attention from a security guard, who said there had been complaints. The response was even faster in the Whispering Gallery in St Paul's: "It took about three seconds -I had my phone out but hadn't even dialled a number," he said. "There's plenty of noise from loud-mouthed tourists. I didn't think anyone would notice when I started shouting

did, and told him to stop. However, inside Harrods, the Barbican Library, and the Natural History Museum, nobody complained (though in the library Mr Pickard reported "blistering looks" from readers).

down my phone." However,

two nuns and a security guard



Afterwards Mr Pickard said: "I was surprised; some places just ignored me. In Harrods, nobody batted an cyclid."

A growing number of organisations are trying to offer use. They may not be used mobile-free areas. The Great within the House of Commons.

Western rail company has classed one carriage per train a mobile-free zone, and an increasing number of pubs and restaurants discourage their use. They may not be used

mobile phones in cars was blamed for a growing number of traffic accidents by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

Last week, the use of handheld

Their unpopularity may be

down to their one-way nature, suggests Mr Pickard. "I think they're only annoying because it's a mobile," he said. "If you were talking to somebody beside you, people would be quite happy to eavesdrop."

Simon Rockman, editor of What Mobile?, said: "We extend our apologies to anyone who found us really obnoxious. We lic places. It is up to the indifound that there was a surprisvidual to decide where he or she ing amount of tolerance to the sees fit to make or receive a

"We naturally encourage their use and believe that it should not be restricted in pub-

# Paedophiles in fight for right to privacy

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

Two convicted child-sex offenders are taking legal action against a police force in an attempt to obtain secrecy rights for paedophiles.

The couple, who cannot be named for legal reasons, want to prevent the police from passsuch as headteachers and youth workers. The action was taken after a man and women were forced to move home when their landlord was allegedly told about their criminal record.

1989. The woman was convicted of aiding and abetting rape and other sex offences. They were both given 11-year prison sentences. They moved to north Wales last summer but were forced to move after they were identified as sex offenders.

In what is expected to be an important test case, the High Court will examine the conflict between the public's right to know and the right of paedophiles to live anonymously after they have served their jail sentence. The couple are seekis expected to be heard at the High Court next month.

It follows a decision by North Wales police to issue a warning about the presence of the convicted sex offenders. The force uses a policy document called "Paedophiles and Suspect Person - Release to Third Parties" to decide whether to issue a warning. An example of a case in which information is likely to be released would be to the headteacher of a school where a con-

victed paedophile lived nearby. The outcome of the High Court case could have impor-The man was convicted of saping a 16-year-old girl and a lice forces and could restrict their ability to issue warnings about known paedophiles.

There is growing concern about paedophiles being allowed to live and work close to children and there have been widespread calls for tougher action to curb their freedom. The new Sex Offenders Act, which has yet to come into force, will require anyone convicted or cautioned for child-sex offences and rape to notify police of their names and addresses and if they move home. The maximum penalty for failure to do so is six months' jail and/or a £5,000 fine.

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# handover



# Caught on camera ... the final days of a colony's history

he clock is ticking. A month from today, the world as six million people know it comes to an end. These Independent images give a glimpse of the Hong Kong that has become familiar in past years, and the Hong Kong that is yet to come

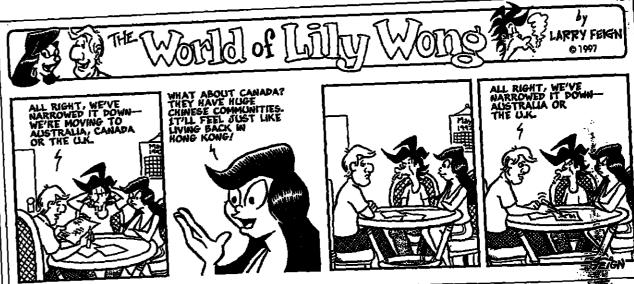
familiar in past years, and the roots yet to come.
On 30 June, the Union Jack will be folded for the last time. It should be a moment of happiness for last time. It should be a moment of happiness for last time. And yet, emotions are endlessly Hong Kong. And yet, emotions are endlessly mixed. There will be dancing on the tables, but mixed. There will be dancing on the tables, but mixed will be an unsettled mood too, as Hong Kong there will be control. The time when comes under Peking's control. The time when Hong Kong Chinese were second-class citizens in their own country is already part of history. A month tonight, there will be both wistfulness and celebration, as the world changes irretrievably.







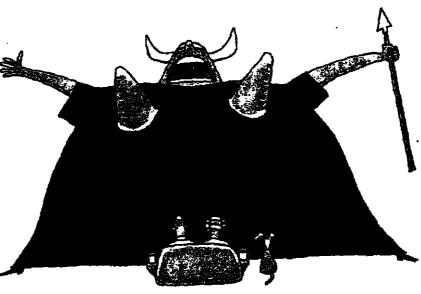
to know local women in Camigies Club, in the War Chai district, where most of the dancing is done on tables; a tar cry from the days when, at height of the empire, such that principles have forward upon the discounted life. "fraternisation" was frowned upon. But disapproval did nothing stop to the district becoming a favourite haunt of sailors whenever they called into port.



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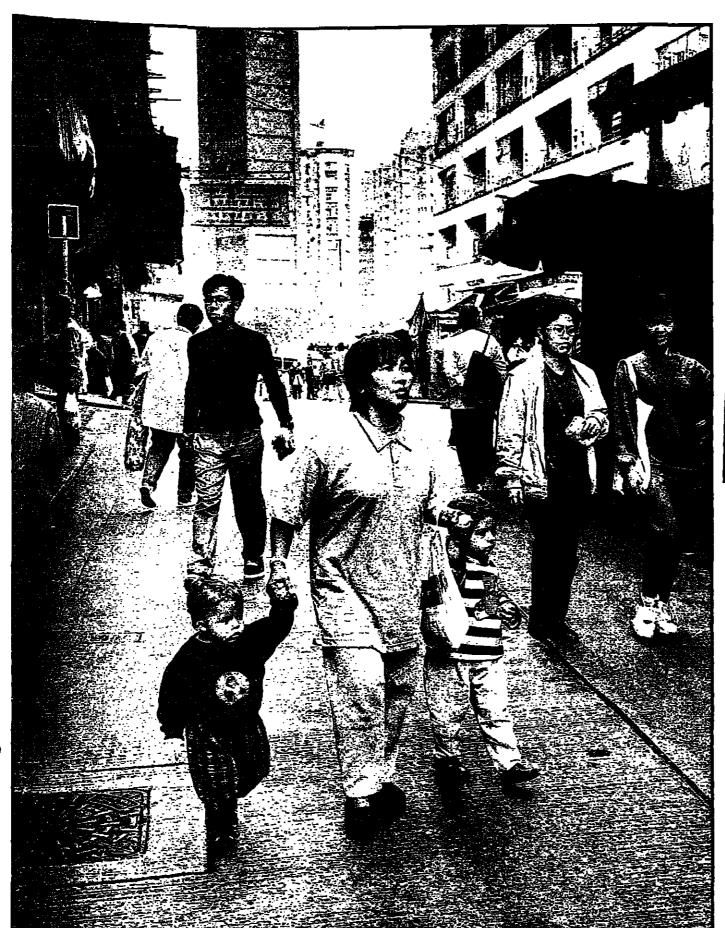
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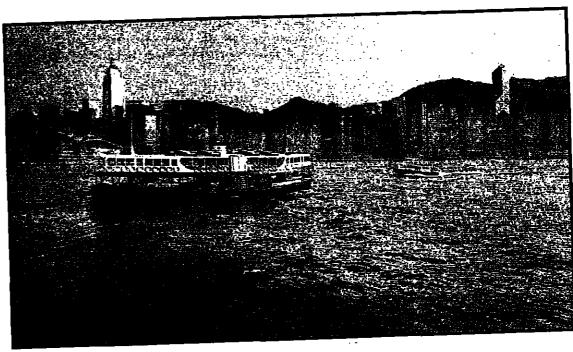
# Hong Kong handover ميكذا من الاعل

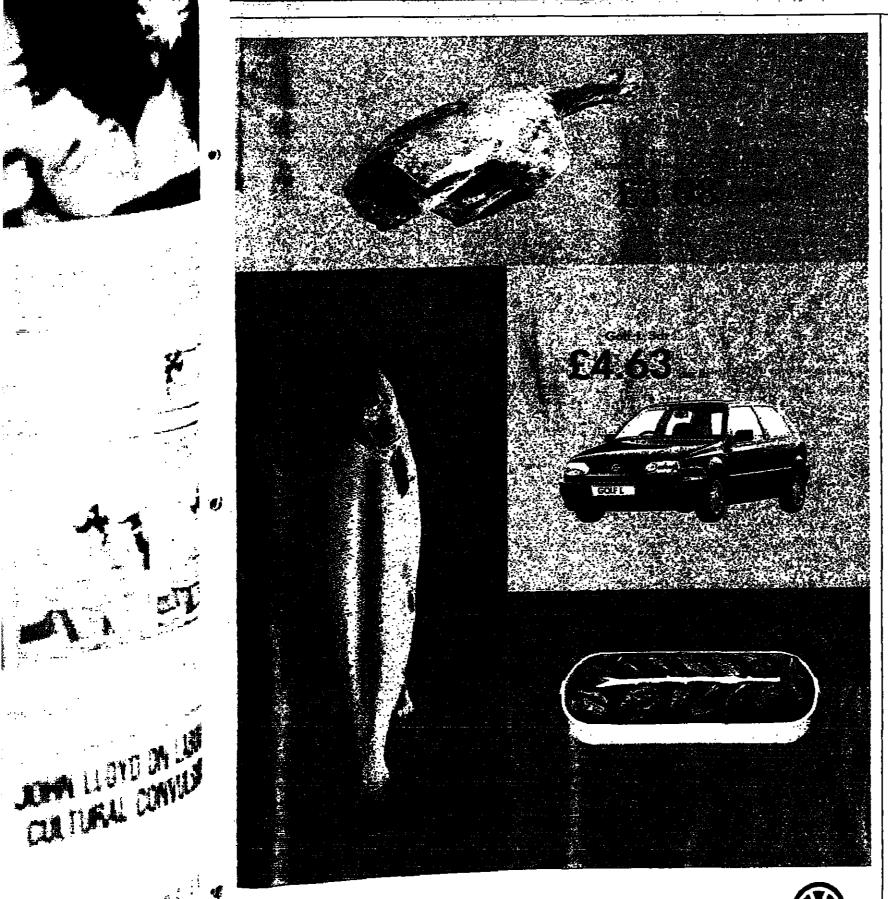




A Chinese nanny, or amah, walking hand in hand with her European charges (left); and a businessman (above) sitting for a shoe-shine before boarding the Star Ferry from Hong Kong island to mainland Kowloon. (Below) one of the Star Ferries – each bearing the

word "Star" as part of her name – heading across the harbour to Central district. The channel has shrunk in width as land has been reclaimed from the water to build the high-rise buildings characteristic of the colony and emblematic of its huge financial success.





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# Europe reels as Kohl goes for German gold

Sarah Helm

Germany's bitter divisions over how to prepare for the single currency reverberated throughout Europe yesterday, as the European Commission attempted to keep monetary union on its Maastricht tracks.

On Wednesday, the Bundesbank fiercely criticised plans by the Helmut Kohl's government to revalue gold reserves, suggesting the move was an attempt to fudge budget deficit figures in order to meet the criteria for the single currency. The bank was forced to deny rumours that its president. Hans Tietmayer, was going to resign over his opposition to the government plans. There will be no cooking of the books - no fudging of the figures," insisted Yves Thibault de Silguy, the eco-nomics commissioner, yesterday, saying also that the German row would not delay the launch on 1 January 1999.

The Commission has yet to make a ruling on whether the German plan to revalue gold reserves would contravene Maastricht rules. To date, Bonn has not officially informed the Commission of its plans, said officials yesterday, refusing to be drawn on whether the move might prove contrary to the treaty.

As the row continued to escalate there were signs that Theo Waigel, the German finance minister may be already be attempting to backtrack. At a news conference yesterday, he said "not a single mark" of the expected proceeds of the gold revaluation would go to reduce the budget deficit.

Mr Waigel also insisted that Germany could meet the convergence criteria regardless of

However, the fierce Bundesbank attack on Wednesday, has already undermined faith in Germany's ability to achieve the Maastricht rules, thereby inevitably fuelling new speculation of a delay. The attack brought hitherto muted German anxieties about the single currency to the fore, fuelling fears that the Euro may not be as strong as the mark. Financial experts in Germany denounced the grab for gold, saying it had damaged confidence in the country's ability to manage its economy.

German financial markets were buffeted by the row. The Deutschmark rose and fell, while the price of German Government bonds declined. Other Continental European gov-ernment bond markets were also weaker. The main beneficiary, with the UK and US, was Switzerland, David Marsh, an analyst at the investment bank Robert Fleming in London pre-dicted a spell of turbulence in the financial markets, saying: "Emu now looks dead in the water."

German anxieties about a "soft Euro" have in the past centred on concern that Italy may be admitted to the first wave of EMU member states. But now the German government's own determination to maintain control of public finances has been called into question.

The Italian leadership, through saying little in public rubbing their hands in glee, knowing that in future it will be harder for Bonn to criticise Italian accounting manoeuvres or to reject Italy's application for membership in the first wave.

The likelihood of the single currency producing a "soft Euro" has also been increased by the prospect of a socialist vic-

peatedly been threw in the past two year massive political wi

t) and the Bundesbank's Hans Tietmayer disagree over plans to revalue gold reserves Photomontage: Jerome Comick

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( Mike any saroon



# Yeltsin's visit to Ukraine mends fences

Boris Yeltsin will today hammer another large plank in his fencemending foreign policy with his first state visit to Ukraine, where he is expected to sign a crucial friendship treaty in the hope of ending the downward slide in relations with his Slavic neighbours. His visit, postponed six times

in recent years, looks like becoming a watershed in Moscow's relationship with Kiev, as it is widely seen as being the first time Russia has implicitly acknowledged that Ukraine is an independent nation, with its own borders.

tablish the framework for amicable bilateral relations, ending a long period of squabbling over the fall-out of the collapse of the Soviet Union which prompted Ukraine to look Westward for friends and

#### Security charter with Nato agreed

Nato Foreign Ministers yesterday agreed a security charter with Ukraine to mirror the historic founding "Act signed with Russia on the signed wit Tuesday, before getting down to talks to finalise which East European states will be invited to join Nato at the Madrid summit on 8-9 July, when the charter will also be signed. The foreign ministers

of the 16-nation Western alliance, including Britain's Robin Cook, met in a barroque monastery in the forests outside Sintra, 15 miles west of Lisbon, in Portugal. The charter with Ukraine allows it to consult with Nato on security threats, establish a permanent mission at Nato headquarters - like Russia - and hold regular talks. But unlike the Nato-Russia "Act", it does not establish a permanent Council. Christopher Bellamy

security in the hope of reducing Moscow's influence.

Mr Yeltsin's two-day visit

follows the settlement of one of the issues that have corroded relations between the two nations - the fate of the former Soviet Black Sea Fleet, and the city of Sevastopol in Crimea, which was ceded to Ukraine by Khrushchev in 1954, but which many Russians have continued to regard as their own.

Earlier this week, both sides reached an agreement under which they will divide up the now rusting Black Sea Fleet and Russia will keep its ships at Sevastopol under a leasing agreement for the next 20 years.

But the friendship treaty, to The treaty is intended to es-blish the framework for am-significance: it suggests that Russia is no longer wedded to the concept that Ukraine - a country the size of France, with a population of 51 million - is inherently part of a Slavic territory over which Moscow exclusively holds sway. "This is the first time when we can see Russia treating the Ukraine as a foreign policy issue, rather than a domestic one," said Martin Bilynskyj, director of the US-Ukraine Foundation in Kiev.

"For several years, Russia used the stick when dealing with the Ukraine." he said. "It was intransigent over the Black Sea Fleet, refused to negotiate over border issues, and wouldn't discuss the question of Ukrainian money left in Moscow's banks after the end of the Soviet Union. But now Moscow is us-

ing a carrot."
The Ukrainian President, Leonid Kuchma, has helped force Russia's hand by leaning provocatively Westwards.

Further pressure was brought to bear on Moscow by Kiev by weaving closer economic ties with the West - particularly the US, its largest foreign investor - and by seeking friends among neighbouring former Warsaw Pact countries. It has manoeuvred to reduce its dependency on Russia, which accounts for almost half of its trade and supplies almost all of its energy.

If all goes well, this weekend's events will add further weight to the argument that Boris Yeltsin has adjusted his foreign policy, and is more interested in domestic reforms than interp national confrontation.

Must a painter use a brush?

To move forward you need to take a different view. Which is why the new Audi:

# Chirac puts faith in odd couple of right

Stranger and stranger. Two political figures from the extreme left and right of the ruling coalition have put themselves forward as the dream ticket to govern France if the centre-right wins Sunday's second round of the parliamentary elec-

Philippe Seguin of the Gaullist RPR and Alain Madelin of the UDF alliance spent much of the presidential election two years ago insulting each other. They now say their views are "complementary" and they have, in effect, nominated themselves as the best choice to be prime minister and finance minister if the centre-right wins the election this weekend. In British terms, this would be the In British terms, this would be the equivalent of a government run by Kenneth Clarke and Michael Portillo. The National Front leader Jean-Marie

Le Pen summed up the widespread astonishment in France with his usual vulgarity. A Séguin-Madelin government would, he said, be a "savage beast", because "it would not know how to shit".

The view of President Jacques Chirac, who would make the choice of Prime Minister, is not known. Officially, the electorate is being asked to return the governing coalition on Sunday without and Madelin stuns French electorate

knowing who its prime minister would be. Alain Juppé, who ran the government for the last two years, said on Monday that he intended to stand down following the unexpected victory for the left in

the first round last Sunday.

But the strange couple was heavily touted yesterday on the front page of Le Figaro, which has been the most craven of government bulletin-boards during the campaign. This suggests that the Séguin-Madelin ticket may have the unofficial blessing of the Elysée Palace. At the very least, it suggests that the President, now in charge of the centre-right campaign, thinks that the best way of winning is to appear to try to appeal to all tendencies at once: the liberal and the statist, the Emu-sceptics and the Emu-fanatics. Another interpretation is that the President sees little chance of winning on Sunday and has, in effect, abandoned all control

Philippe Séguin, 54, is the standardbearer of the statist, social-democratic, Euro-sceptical wing of the Gaullist Par-

Alliance of Séguin ty. He campaigned against the ratification of the Maastricht treaty and has argued that France should not try to shrink its large state sector but to make it work better. Alain Madelin, 51, is as near as mainstream French politics gets to a free-market, supply-side liberal. He wants to shrink the state and is an unqualified fan of Emu.

qualified fan of Emu.

In a joint appearance in Chambéry on Wednesday, they said there was nothing incompatible about their views. They said the creation of the Fifth Republic by General Charles de Gaulle in 1958 was an attempt to reconcile "financial rigour and social generosity". In office, they would try to renew this historic alliance between the two forces of the traditional French right, liberalism and Gaullism. Others right, liberalism and Gaullism. Others might argue that it is the inability to decide clearly between the two which has created many of the problems in French politics and the French economy.

Lionel Jospin, the Socialist leader, said their hastily arranged and "baroque" partnership was a further sign of "confusion" and "disarray" on the right.

The outcome of Sunday's second round remains extremely hazardous to

round remains extremely hazardous to predict. It will depend on the results of at least 100 constituencies which will probably be decided by less than 1 per



Shock tactics: Phillippe Séguin of the RPR (left) and Alain Madelln of the UDF in Chambéry yesterday



# Grassroots view Juppé's resignation with disdain



Campaign talk: A voter chatting with the Socialist leader Lionel Jospin in Paris yesterday Photograph: AP

John Lichfield Livry-Gargan

Drive north-east of Paris on the old N3 road to Rheims and you plunge into Anywhere-sur-Monde. Overpasses. Underpasses. Tower blocks. Forest of bright signs saying McDonald's, Nissan, Midas, Avis. You could be in New Jersey.

One of the issues in the French parliamentary election is the country's morbid fear of globalism. Drive down the N3 and you might think the French have nothing to be scared of.

They have already lost. But wait a moment. Take any turning to left or right and you're back in France again. There are leafy streets of neat houses (pavillions), separated every mile or so by provincial shopping streets with bakers, cafés, pâtisseries, selling delica-cies which suburban New Jersey has never dreamed of.

This is the eastern part of the department of Seine-St Denis, a quilt of middle-class, workingclass and immigrant areas which is one of the key battle-grounds in the second round of the French elections on Sunday. Here, side by side, sit three of the 73 constituencies in which there will be a three-way run off between the centre-right gov-ernment, the left and the farright National Front.

All three had government MPs in the last parliament. This time the NF scored sufficiently well to maintain its candidate in the second round, splitting the right-wing vote. In two out of the three "triangu-lar" races locally - in 50 out of the 73 across the nation - the left is cautiously expected to win. If it does, the next prime minister will probably be the Socialist leader, Lionel Jospin.

There is an especially intriguing race in the 12th district of Seine-St Denis, based on the towns of Livry-Gargan (blue collar) and Le Raincy (bourgeois). In the left corner of the electoral triangle is Alain Calmat, 57, former world figure-skating champion, and mayor of Livry-Gargan, who topped the poll with 29 per cent in the first round. In the government corner is Eric Raoult, 41, minister for urban affairs and racial integration. He is the popular mayor of Le Raincy. He scored a disappointing 27 per cent in the first round after being mocked by the NF as the "minister for Arabs". In the far-right corner is Franck Timmermans. 39, the very model of the new generation of young, educated, price of the quinté [the tote]."

designer-suited FN candidates. He scored 22 per cent.

With the votes of the eliminated Communist candidates and a bus-full of fringe left and green contenders, Mr Calmat should win on Sunday. But in French politics, two and two do not automatically make four. What if a different cast of vot-

ers should turn out on Sunday? What if some of the NF sup-porters return to the centre to bar the way of the left? Will the departure of the unpopular Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, help the centre-right? Mr Calmat, sitting in his

large office in the mairie, is in a mood of cantankerous serenity. "Bof," he says, "Juppé makes no differences. Les electeurs s'en fichent d'Alain Juppé. [The voters don't give a stuff about Alain Juppé.] They care about their wallets. About their kids' future. About jobs. Above all, they want a government which talks to them like adults, not like children."

He agrees that the nation is in a strange mood: seeking a change and desperately fearful of change. France has "un esprit modere frondeur": an attitude of rebellious caution. There is no passion for

Jospin but there is a lot of respect for Jospin. Momentum is the important thing in politics. I didn't think we'd do as well as we did nationally in the first round. Now I'm convinced we'll win." A mile down the N3 is the

headquarters of the RPR (Gaullist) candidate. Eric Raoult. His campaign manager Françoise Bergougniou says it has been the strangest election in her 33 years as local activist. "The landscape has fragmented," she said. 'There were 22 candidates in the first round. Scores of local pressure groups trying to blackmail us." In the first round the centre-right electorate swung partly to the NF; partly it stayed at home, she said. "We can get them back. We are already getting them back now that they see the alternative is to have the Socialists in power again."

Maybe. One thing is unchanged. Popular interest in the election is as low as ever. In a bar near the mairie, the seven people propping up the counter (the lowest poll sample in history) say they voted two to the left, one NF, one for a fringe candidate and three not at all. Any change on Sunday? They shrug. A man in overalls points to his racing newspaper. The headline says: "The real question of the day. Will the euro put up the

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**5** 







# Secret map reveals Israel's West Bank plan

Patrick Cockburn Jerusalem

Israel plans to hand over only 40 per cent of the West Bank to the Palestinians instead of the 90 per cent they expected under the Oslo peace accords.

Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, showed the map, prepared by the Israeli army, to President Bill Clinton carlier in the year as a guide to the territory Israel would like to retain on the West Bank which it captured in the 1967 war, Is-

raeli press reports say.

The map, published in the daily *Haaretz* yesterday, shows Palestinian control limited to two cantons north and south of Jerusalem, centred on Nablus and Hebron, but with no territorial link between the two. The paper says: "Prime Minister Netanyahu's secret map. which he intends to offer the PA [Palestinian Authority] during the permanent status negotiations, allows them less than 40 per cent of the territory."

Mr Netanyahu yesterday distanced himself from the map, saying he does not yet have a firm idea of what will be on offer to the Palestinians. However, the map is in keeping with his previous statements and its intention to severely limit the size of the Palestinian enclave was reportedly supported by



seven ministers at a cabinet

meeting this week. Saeb Erekat, the Palestinian chief negotiator, said: "This is not acceptable. He [Mr Netanyahu] is negotiating with himself, or rather with himself and other extremists in his government. He has forgotten he

has a partner. The map shows Israel retaining sovereignty over all the Jewish settlements on the West Bank, the Jordan valley, the hills east of Jerusalem and heavily settled areas close to the border with Israel. This does not leave much for the 1.1 million

Palestinians on the West Bank. tinians is that their territory Surrounded by Israeli territory their economic future will entirely depend on Israel. Palestinians in and around Jerusalem will be isolated from the autonomous Palestinian entities.

Originally prepared by the army to show Israeli interests on the West Bank, the map underlines how far the Israeli government position has changed since the Interim Agreement of the Oslo accords was signed in 1995. This would have in effect ended the Israeli occupation of most of the West Bank. Mr Netanyahu has made clear that he has no such intention. Some aspects of the plan

are already being implemented. Traffic between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv is increasingly using a new road which runs through the West Bank. An elaborate tunnel system links Jewish settlers in Gush Etzion and at Kirvat Arba, near Hebron, to Jerusalem and bypasses the Palestinian towns of Hebron and Bethlehem. The Council for Jewish Settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza estimates that there now 160,000 settlers in 144 settlements.

The map also shows the West Bank as further bisected by "corridors" by which Israelis and Palestinians would pass through each other's territory. The only crumb of comfort for the Palesmight be expanded if the security situation warranted it.

Mr Netanyahu is in a strong political position to implement his plan for the West Bank. Palestinian and international protests over the construction of a new settlement at Har Homa. known to Palestinians as Jabal Abu Ghneim, have ebbed away. The turning point internationally came when the United States, despite its disapproval of Har Homa, twice vetoed United Nations Security Council resolutions against it. Ai Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt this week Mr Netanyahu showed that Har Homa does not stop him meeting with Arab leaders such as the Egyptian President, Hosni Mubarak.

der little pressure at home. The Labour party is still consumed by the battle to succeed Shimon Peres, its previous leader. Mr Netanyahu turns out to have suffered little damage from the scandal over his appointment of Roni Bar-On, a party hack, to be attorney-general. Dissidents in his cabinet are chastened. Above all the Palestinians have not re-acted strongly, either through civil protests or guerrilla attacks, to Mr Netanyahu abandoning the intention of the previous government to end the occupation of all but 10 to 15 per

cent of the West Bank.

Dulux

The Israeli leader is also un-



Al-Banna, a Palestinian, grieves over her Jerusalem home, tom down by the Israelis Photograph: AF

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**Britons airlifted from** Sierra Leone

Britons, Commonwealth and European citizens trapped in Sierra Leone following the coup which toppled President Kabbah at the weekend were yesterday airlifted to safety aboard a jumbo jet chartered by the Foreign Office. The plane was due to land at Gatwick at 2am today. The Foreign Office said no serious injuries to British or foreign nationals had been reported, but that about 50 homes had been looted at gunpoint. Christopher Bellamy

**UN tells Taliban to negotiate** 

The United Nations called on the warring factions in Afghanistan to stop fighting and start negotiations.
The Taliban Islamic militia has been defeated by ethnic Uzbek forces in the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif after two days of fighting. Uzbek troops are holding the Taliban Foreign Minister and the northern military commander. The Pakistan Foreign Ministry said the Taliban were holding talks with their opponents. Reuters – Islamabad

**Sex slaves protest in Japan** 

Dozens of Filipina former Second World War sex slaves picketed the Japanese Embassy to protest against calls in Japan to delete references in history books to their wartime abuse by Japanese troops. The women are fighting for compensation and official apologies from the Japanese government.

Paying to fly the flag

A car dealer faces fines of \$250 for every day he breaches a local law limiting the number of American flags he can fly on his property to four. George Abchal has been flying up to two dozen flags on his cars in what he says is a AP - Melbourne, Florida patriotic gesture.

\* THE INDEPENDENT

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Indonesia poll: Up to 22 die in Fretilin guerrilla assaults on police stations as ruling Golkar party garners a massive majority



Sure winner: President Suharto after casting his vote in the Indonesian elections yesterday

#### which could have gone wrong in the Indonesian elections and yesterday, polling day, it hap-pened Since campaigning began at the end of May, there has

been violent religious conflict, fights between members of rival political parties, and economic unrest has been expressed by mobs of youths burning cars, banks, and luxury shops. There has also been racial tension in Borneo between local

Richard Lloyd Parry

There was only one more thing

Jakarta

tribesmen and immigrants from the island of Madura. Of the conflicts that dog Indonesia, just one had remained dormant until yesterday, when independence fighters in East Timor launched a series of attacks on polling booths and police stations. Early results suggested, as expected, a massive majority for the ruling Golkar party of President Subarto - with 2.57 million of the country's 125 million potential votes counted, Golkar

had almost 92 per cent, thanks to a highly regulated electoral system which overwhelmingly favours the ruling party.

Timorese rebels in

election day attack

By last night there had been no reports of large-scale violence. In Jakarta, the atmosphere was one of festivity, as people turned out at the thousands of tiny polling booths spaced every few hundred yards throughout the huge city.

For the last few months, East Timor, brutally invaded by Indonesia in 1975, has been quiet, too, but reports in Jakarta yesterday indicated that the East Timorese resistance have launched their biggest offensive for many years. Conflicting accounts said up to 22 people had been killed in attacks by members of the Fretilin resistance army on polling stations and police stations.

All information comes from the police and military, and is impossible to confirm, but it appears that four guerrillas were killed and four captured late on Wednesday night, when a group of 13 attacked a police station in the capital, Dili, in an attempt to seize guns. Local people described hearing a two-hour gun battle, and the police claimed that overnight attacks had been carried out on dozens of polling stations in the Timorese towns of Baucau, Ermera, Viqueque and Los Palos in which around four rebels, nine civilians and

According to the territory's chief of police, Colonel Yusuf Muharam, three people were said to be missing, having been abducted during the battles by unidentified men. The rebels ambushed two police trucks near Baucau on Tuesday, killing two officers and injuring dozens of others. Yesterday, at least one policeman was seriously hurt, and possibly killed, while guarding a polling booth.

two policemen were killed.

At a meeting of Nato foreign ministers in Lisbon, the Indonesian elections were condemned by Portugal, which the United Nations still regards as the legitimate authority in East Timor. "Elections in Indonesia have not been free elections," said the Portuguese foreign minister, Jaime Gama. "In East Timor, an occupied territory, those elections could not have been free, and the people there have shown that they do not accept occupation and annexation." There were no major reports of electoral irregularities but, with counting controlled entirely by government-appointed organi-

sations and only a small independent monitoring organisation, they would be unlikely to come to light.

Many Indonesians are required to vote at their place of work, a situation which offers

many opportunities for political pressure to be exerted on them. In the final result, there are few interesting questions: the size of Golkar's majority compared to previous years; the proportion of abstentions and spoiled or blank ballots; and the possibility that a huge ruling

party victory will provoke more

frustration and more violence.

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ANSWERING

# Texas 'capital for executions'

Mary Dejevsky Washington

THE INDEPENDIN

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The human rights organisation Amnesty International has criticised the state of Texas for the number of executions it carries out, saying that it comes "perilously close" to matching the "astoundingly high" rates of execution in Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Amnesty's statement. demanding an end to the executions in Texas, was timed to coincide with the killing by lethal injection of Robert Madden, 33, for the double murder of a father and son.

Madden is the 387th person to be executed in the United States since the death penalty was reintroduced in 1976, and

the 123rd in Texas. Amnesty points out that Texas accounts for almost one-third of US executions, and that its rate far exceeds that of any other state.

A long-standing campaigner against the death penalty anywhere in the world, Amnesty cited statistics to support its argument that increased use of the death penalty has not been accompanied by a fall in violent crime in Texas.

In drawing attention to the execution rate in Texas, Amnesty echoed concern expressed in US media reports, which have described Texas as the "capital of capital punishment". Four people were executed there last week alone, and Madden's execution brings the total to eight for the month of May. Eleven are scheduled for June. The Texas authorities ac-

knowledge that the rate is high, but say it has been distorted in the past year because of a hiatus in 1996 while a new appeals procedure was challenged in the courts. It says the rate has also been higher because it is trying to reduce the average eight years that condemned prisoners spend on "death row". If this policy continues, the rate is likely to increase: some 450 people are

awaiting execution in Texas. Several reasons are advanced, aside from the policy "blip", for the high rate of execution in Texas. Some refer to the state's persisting "frontier" mentality and say that "an eye for an eye"

sentiments are stronger there than elsewhere. Others say it reflects the fact that Texas, like a number of other states, does not have a sentence of "life imprisonment without parole".

Others, however, say Texas has simply been quicker to respond to the hardened public mood in the face of violent crime, and that other states will follow. Certainly, the rate of executions has increased sharply in most states since 1994, as has the length of prison sentences and the use of life sentences. While Amnesty and liberal opinion in the US may express misgivings about the death penalty and how it is applied, public opinion is of the view that "the more the better".

#### Kabila promises elections in 1999

President Laurent Kabila took office as head of state of the Democratic Republic of Congo yesterday, promising to hold elections in April 1999 and to bury the legacy of the ousted dictator Mobutu Sese Seko.

In an address to the nation. nunctuated with side-swipes at Western governments who had supported Mr Mobutu and were now questioning his own democratic credentials, he made clear he would bring democratic change to former Zaire - but on his own terms.

crumbling and shattered state must be organised so that the Congolese people can hold elec-tions," he said, naming April 1999 as the date for presidential and parliamentary elections." Mr Kabila, whose forces

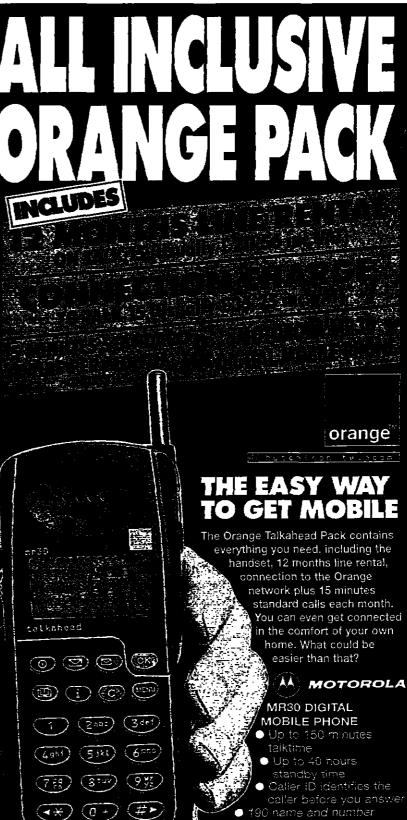
"We are not in a hurry. This

marched into the capital on 17 May after a seven-month civil war, swore the oath of office in front of the head of the supreme court and a crowd of tens of thousands in Kinshasa's main sports stadium. Across town, outside the

home of the veteran opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi, up to 2,000 opposition militants called for Mr Kabila to stand down. accusing him of acting like a dictator.

"It's up to the people to make Mr Kabila go," Mr Tshisekedi told them. "If the people want to end dictatorship it is up to them and not me."

As a first step towards elections, Mr Kabila said that a constituent council would be set up to draft a new constitution which would be put to an elected constituent assembly and finally to the people in a referendum in December 1998.



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# **Eugene Stoner**

Eugene Stoner first met his Russian opposite number, the arms designer Mikhail Kalashnikov, in 1990 at Dulles International Airport, Washington DC. They were both subjects of a video history programme sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution. Despite the language barrier, they appeared to know each other :::well. As taping for the project got under way, it became evident that the two designers had grown to know each other through their weapons.

Stoner and Kalashnikov -spent over a week together answering questions and commenting on their designs and the sources of their creativity. It was surprising to see the similarities in their backgrounds. Neither men had gone to uni-;; versity, neither had formal education in his craft. (Stoner once said that, if he were hiring in today's labour market, he would not hire himself; to get a job designing small arms now requires a university degree.) Both by their successful manoeuvres had seen their designs triumph over bureaucratic roadblocks.

Eugene Stoner was one of the last of the independent small arms designers in the tradition of John Browning and John Garand. Soldiers today demand and now expect weapons that deliver greater firepower without increasing the weight of their kit. Stoner's M-16 assault rifle - standard issue in the United States armed forces since

1963 - pioneered the principle. By the 1950s the US government had focused its attention on the possibilities of delivering greater lethality in a smaller package using a high tougher than their opponents

velocity .22 calibre (5.56mm) weapon. The ultimate winner in a lengthy, and often controversial competition became the  $5.56 \times 45$ mm M-16.

The project began for Stoner in 1957 while he was working at the ArmaLite Division of Fairchild Engine and Airplane Corporation. His design stemmed from a combination of earlier technological developments. The rotary locking bolt now so closely associated with his designs was derived from the Johnson rifle developed and used during the Second World War. The difference, the genius, of Stoner's work lay in his ability to adapt and combine technologies to lead to something new and different. His design achieved the accuracy and lethality as well as controllable high rate of fire the military wanted.

The story of the programme is a lesson in bureaucratic influences on the procurement process. Tests were allegedly biased in favour of candidate weapons that government offi-cials endorsed. With its plastic hand-guard and buttstock the AR-15, the predecessor to the M-16, did not look like a "real" rifle; some military leaders thought it looked like a toy. A combination of political considerations and refuctance on the part of certain military leaders to shift to the lighter round appeared to condemn the weapon's future.

ArmaLite sold its interest in the AR-15 to Colt's Patent Firearms Manufacturing Company, now Colt's Firearms Manufacturing Company Inc., in 1959. Colt's saw its own future in this futuristic-looking weapon; and Colt's people proved

working in the arsenals and the US Army.

After years of testing through agencies outside the control of the US Army, and intervention from the Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara, and President Lyndon Johnson, the weapon was ultimately adopted in 1963 as the US became more heavily involved in the Vietnam conflict. Long-term consequences of its adoption included removing the government's dependence on its nearly 150-year-old arsenal system for small-arms research and development and production.

In 1968 McNamara closed the arsenals in part because of the controversies resulting from the M-16 programme. The amount of time it took from initiating the programme to adopt-ing the final product led Stoner to comment that no one could expect to see adoption of two weapon systems in their lifetime.

It is often said in the industry that small arms now are designed by committee. But the design process will always need that one unique person, the imaginative individual with a new way of looking at a problem. Eugene Stoner was the man with the ideas who passed them on to the design committees. According to a long-time friend and colleague, Stoner was "the master of the obvious". "When he came up with an idea you would ask yourself, 'Why didn't I think of that?' But you didn't."

One of the particular qualities of Stoner among weapons designers was his ability to conceptualise how parts would have to be made if they were going to work. Another was his ability to interpret technologies from one calibre to another.

24年2月 4-44-4

Stoner, left, with a Kalashnikov AK-47 and Kalashnikov with an M-16, George Washington National Forest, Virginia, 1990

The fact that he could design a whole range of weapons from 5.56mm assault rifles to medium-calibre crew-served weapons and 37mm cannons is just one indication of the diversity of his capabilities. That kind of breadth and depth is uncommon among small-arms designers. He also designed magazines and ammunition loaders, perhaps mundane from their outward appearance but

combination of parts that make up an assault rifle as a weapon

Stoner was born in the midwestern United States in Gosport, Indiana, in 1922, to a middle-class family. They moved to California where he graduated from Long Beach Polytechnical High School. Without funds it was impossible to attend university. Vega Aircraft, the forerunner of what an essential element of the became Lockheed Airplane pons. The early work experience

Company (now Lockheed Martin Corporation), hired Stoner just out of high school as a machinist. When the United States entered the Second World War he joined the Marine Corps, and fought in the South Pacific. Okinawa, the Philippines, and

As an armourer in the Marine Corps, he had his first experience of working with heavy-calibre automatic wea-

northern China.

and training during the war served him through his weapons designing career.

Stoner was a hard worker. His last products included a new high-accuracy, long-range 50-calibre sniper rifle which he was designing with C. Reed Knight of Knights Manufacturing Company. He joined the Florida-based company in part to pass on his experience to younger designers. One engineer, a recent university grad-

uate working closely with him in his last year, said that small arms have long since reached their technological peak. "Ston-er tried not to fall back on what had been done. He did not want to reinvent things. He always wanted to try a new way. He taught me to look at a design from every angle," he said. A young enthusiast met Ston-

er - a member of the US Army Ordnance Corps' Ordnance Hall of Fame, the holder of over 100 patents in small arms, with weapons to his name that were standard issue in military inventories around the world - by chance at an industry exhibition in 1991. "We talked for two hours, and I learned a lot," he

"He opened my eyes about the [M-16] system itself: what he did to get the 20-inch barrel; why they changed to a 1-in-14 twist and then 1-in-12 twist. But it was surprising. In whatever industry, someone in the public eye, a star, usually tells you to get away. He wasn't like that."

Stoner never lost his enthusiasm for guns and designing them. He saw chance meetings as opportunities: perhaps one of these new faces had a better idea. He was quite unassuming. It was said of him: "If you took someone into a room telling him that one of the world's foremost small arms designers is here, looking around the room, he would never pick out Gene Stoner as that person."

Virginia Ezell

worth of

botherapy

Eugene Morrison Stoner, small arms designer: born Gosport, Indiana 22 November 1922; twice married (one son, three daughters); died Palm City, Florida 24 April 1997.

#### Henri Barakat

The veteran Egyptian filmmaker Henri Barakat left a legacy of 112 feature films made over an extraordinary 55-year-long career.

He belonged to a group of film-makers including the late Salah Abu-Seif, Youssef Wahbi. Ahmed Kamel Mursy and Kamal el-Sheikh who, in the late 1930s and 1940s, injected a wave of realism into the Egyptian film industry that had been lacking since the first Egyptian film was screened in Alexandria

The films of these Frencheducated directors presented lively slices from the daily life of Egyptian society, encompassing a wide diversity of the social classes, geographical and ethnical groupings that made up the rich mosaic of Egypt. Vanguard film-makers like Salah Abu Seif relied on selecting po-



phrase "political correctness" was coined.

Barakat's realism, however, was inseparable from his films' format, regardless of the content, even in light-hearted pieces dismissed as "an unworlitically and socially controver—They included all types of films, many aspiring young film-mak—a star-maker: he discovered ical study of what he saw. He resial subjects, siding with the ranging from musicals to crime ers in Egypt and Arab nations many young talents who went turned to Cairo when the time—and to subject themselves him "The Master of Poetic Remarried (two daughters); died on to become box-office stars. Second World War broke out, to censorship—in order to enalism". He excelled in screen Cairo 27 May 1997.

neering French films of the 1960s, Hammer-Horror-like movies or Indian melodrama, as well as epic stories, political thrillers and dramatisation of big historic events. He always respected his wide range of audience and their awareness. His cinematography was impres-sive, even in light comedy. One critic compared his use of cinema to a "quill in a poet's His best-known film, and his

masterpiece, was Doaa el-Karawan ("The Nightingale Prayer"), his 1959 adaptation of the novel by the Egyptian philosopher and author Taha Hussein. Set in the 1920s, it is about the oppression of poor peasant women in the hands of upper-class men. It was a landmark film, and broke away from the norm in Egyptian cinby certain critics. ema, providing inspiration to made for television. Barakat was a day - in order to write a crit-couraged directors to produce

on location - in the desert, the countryside and the mountains. It was also well received by critics, and was nominated for an Academy award as Best Foreign Film in 1959. Its star was Fatin Hammama,

who shared many of Barakat's

views on cinema and was known as the Queen of Egyptian cinema. Their partnership, which spanned 30 years and some 40 films, is arguably the best joint contribution to the progress of the Egyptian film industry, influencing the whole of the Middle East. They got together for a final time in 1984 - when Hammama was living in self-imposed exile in Paris after the break-up of her 1955 marriage to Omar Sharif - to make "The Night Fatima Was Arrested". which was a hit in all Arabspeaking nations and later re-

1914 in Shubra, the popular Coptic Christian-dominated area of north Cairo. He loved going to the cinema and theatre as well as reading classical 19thcentury novels during his law studies at King Fuad I University in Cairo. He graduated in 1935. Barakat always paid fierce attention to details. In 1935, by pointing out many technical errors, the young graduate made himself unpopular with the crew and star cast in his first job, assisting his older brother as he edited the film Antar Ef-

to Paris to study cinema. Here he learnt his trade by attending the shooting of many French films and going to the cinema – sometimes four times

fendi; it was a flasco both at the

box office and with critics. The

experience induced him to go

and soon started on his first film. Ashareed ("The Vagabond". 1942), based on a story by Chekhov. It was a box-office success. His next two films were screened in the same year - and alongside "The Vagabond" - in Cairo and Alexandria. (Eight times again in his career did this happen: the years 1952 and 1954 each saw the production of five of his films.)

Barakat kept a close eye on

the box office, as he believed that the audience are always right. In one of his rare interviews, however, after receiving the prestigious Egyptian State Award for Arts in 1996, he admitted his disappointment in the decline both of audience taste and of standard of films. Like many critics he pointed the finger at the large video market in the oil-rich Gulf which en-

ter that market; the larger than usual output of films of Henri Barakat, however, maintained a high professional standard.

Barakat argued that the surplus income from his popular films enabled him to introduce new young talent - something the film financiers dislike and to make films with a serious social message like Al-Harram ("The Sin"), based on the novel by Youssef Idris, which was well received in Cannes in 1963; or his last film. Mwatin Tahtal Tahquik ("A Citizen under Investigation".

1993); seen as a protest against the violation of civil rights. In the last half of his career, Barakat was dubbed Sheikh el-Mukhergine ("The Patriarch of Film-makers"), "The Nightingale of Egyptian Cinema", "the Father of Romantic Cinema", "The Poet of the Silver Screen".

Chekhov, Dostoevsky and Dumas, and was the winner of several awards - three from the Catholic Film Institute in 1958, 1959 and 1961, and others from the New Delhi and Berlin film Festivals.

adaptations of novels by

Because of his "poetic realism", Barakat's films had a strong influence not only on film-makers in Arab countries. but also on the social trends. fashion and life-style of hundreds of thousands of middleclass Arabs.

His funeral at Our Virgin Lady of Peace Catholic church on the Nile Bank in Central Cairo was, in the words of an Egyptian columnist, "a poetic march across half a century in the history of Egyptian cinema".

Adel Darwish

Henri Antoine Barakat, film-

#### The Rev Len Addicott

men who alerted public and parliamentary opinion to the realities of torture, slave labour and a planned massacre of black Angolans following an uprising against Portuguese rule in 1961. Distressed that reports from missionaries were not reaching the public. Addicott and his fellow Baptist minister in Southend, Eric Blakebrough, set up the Angola Action Group in their own homes. With enormous energy they set about their campaign, printing leaflets on an electric duplicator, handing them out to bemused shoppers and tourists on Southend's "Golden Mile", and dashing up

campaign made the front page of the Guardian. A petition calling on the Government to halt arms sales to Angola attracted 37.524 signatures in five days and was presented to the House of Commons by George Thomas MP (later the Speaker and now Viscount Tonypandy). Such was the momentum behind the campaign that the Govern-ment could not avoid a major Commons debate. The sale of arms to Angola was stopped and the Portuguese abandoned plans for a military offensive which could have cost thousands of lives. In 1962 Addicott told the story of the campaign in a book, Cry Angola!

Born in Coventry in 1917 - he was later made a Freeman of the city - Len Addicott left school

Len Addicott was one of two and down the country and the at 14 and served a seven-year apprenticeship to the printing trade, in the course of which he felt called to the ministry. After part-time study at home he was accepted by Bristol Baptist College. He graduated from Bristol University in 1944 and went to his first church, at Riplev in Derbyshire, where he was the driving force behind a remarkable Christian experiment. Giving up his post as honorary chaplain to British troops, he chose to work with German prisoners instead: he taught himself German in order to conduct services in the prison camp and encouraged members of his congregation to invite PoWs into their homes on Sundays.
In his 1984 biography of

Hitler's personal orders and spent eight years in concentration camps, James Bentley tells how Niemöller, depressed at the failure of British politicians to take action for post-war reconciliation, was encouraged to hear of Addicott's work in a small industrial town. Addicott himself was to tell the full story almost 50 years later in 1990. in his pamphlet Beloved Enemies.

After Ripley, he held pas-torates in Plymouth, Saffron Walden, Southend and Blackheath in London before leaving full-time ministry in 1966 to take a PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate in Education) at Cambridge University. He was awarded the Jacobs Memorial Prize in 1967 for his dissertation Martin Niemöller, the German on "Aspects of Delinquency". With his wife, Margaret (daugh-pastor who was arrested on For a while he taught religious ter of another distinguished

**Charles Cracknell** 

education at the Perse School for Girls in Cambridge, while continuing to help out at local churches - he was briefly honorary pastor at Willingham and occasionally preached at St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, where he took on pastoral work during a long interregnum between ministers.

Those who knew Len Addicott will remember his gift for poetry, his linguistic pedantry. his solid faith, but above all his fierce hatred of injustice and discrimination in all its forms; one of his most treasured possessions was a signed letter from Martin Luther King. He was a crusader for unfashionable issues and a friend of those on the margins of society.



Baptist minister. F.C. Bryan), he took in rough sleepers and young women said to be "in need of care and protection". He befriended people with mental illness and spoke up in the

who had fallen foul of the law. He was as passionate about his local campaigns as his international ones, and was often to be found buried in a chaotic pile of papers, ignoring all requests to eat and sleep until

courts on behalf of young men

he had achieved his aims. When a seven-year-old boy was killed crossing the road in Woolwich in 1965, he organised another of his petitions and persuaded Roger Moore and Fanny Cradock to sign it. The pedestrian bridge which resulted became known as "Len's bridge". His wife's death from cancer

in 1992 was a blow from which be never recovered; for more than 40 years the two had been the closest of partnerships, her quiet support providing the backdrop to all his public work.

about them to his friends. But his passionate desire for a fairer world remained undimmed - a desire rooted in his firm belief that we are all God's children. Just days before he died he was talking with enthusiasm about the new Labour government, and the hope that it of-

fered to the generations who

He spent his last years in in-creasing ill-health, delighting in

the company of his young grand-

children and writing long letters

would succeed him.

Leonard Edward Addicott, minister of the church, writer and teacher: born Coventry 17 September 1917; ordained 1944; married 1950 Margaret Bryan (died 1992; two sons, one daughter), died Cambridge 9 May 1997.

to London between pastoral

duties to harry Portuguese diplo-

mats and Foreign Office officials.

They spoke at meetings up

bassoonist. Joining the Halle Orchestra in 1946, he was one of the fresh crop of wind principals recruited after the end of war by Sir John Barbirolli to revitalise the orchestra. Cracknell was born in Hast-

Charles Cracknell was for over

30 years Manchester's leading

ings in 1915, the second son of

the excellent local Municipal Orchestra inspired him to take up the bassoon. After war service spent mostly in Algeria, he completed his studies on the instrument in London at the Royal Academy of Music. Having moved to Manches-

ter, he was able over the years that followed to make a distina clockmaker. Early exposure to guished contribution to what

were the vintage years for the Hallé Orchestra under Barbi-rolli's direction. A highlight icated and much-loved teacher. working at both the Northern School and the Royal Manearly on was the British prechester College of Music. He took retirement in 1977, having mière of Richard Strauss's Duet-Concertino, which Crackspent 31 years with the orchesnell gave with the clarinettist tra, and was appointed MBE in Pat Ryan during the 1948-49 Moving back south to Bor-

In addition to his activities as ough Green, Kent, he continued orchestral player, he was a dedto teach for many years in Can-

terbury and the surrounding region. His daughter Gillian is a pianist and accompanist. William Waterhouse

Charles William Penton Cracknell, hassoonist: born Hastings, East Sussex 13 September 1915; married 1941 Patricia Murphy (three daughters); died 1 May

Mervyn Wall, writer, died Dublin 18 May, aged 88. A short-story writer, playwright and novelist, he also served as Secretary of the Irish Arts Council from 1957 to 1975. Richard Trench, traveller and writer, died 18 May, aged 48, Author of Forbidden Sands, an account of his journey from Mauritania to Timbuktu, and of Arabian Travellers (1980).

Rob Palmer, underwater explorer, died off Gitun Island, Egypt 5 May, aged 45. Held

depth records for dives in the Blue Holes in the Bahamas (2,700 feet) and in Cheddar Gorge.

James Fox, FBI agent, died 16 May, aged 59. As head of the FBI's New York office (1987-93), sent the Mafia chief John Gotti to jail in 1991; in 1993 led investigations of the bombing of the World Trade Center. Marcelino Lora, politician, died

Lisbon 21 May, aged 94. President of Columbia's senate

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

#### Births, **Marriages** & Deaths

BIRTHS

BUTLER: On 27 May to Rosalcen and Nick a son, James Jonathan, a broth-er for Julia.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS MARRIAGES & DEATHS should be The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 (24-hour uswering machine 0171-293 2012) or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

#### Birthdays

Mr William Cleland, thoracic surgeon, 85; Mr Ray Cooney, theatrical producer, 65; Mr Peter Ellis, actor, ol; The Marquess of Ely, former headmaster, 84; Mr Harry Enfield. writer and comedian, 36; Mr Norman Eshley, actor, 52: The Right Rev John Gladwin, Bishop of Guildford, 55; Air Marshal Sir Reginald Harland, engineering and management consultant, 77; Mr Christopher Haskins. chairman, Northern Foods, 60; Sir David Knox, former MP, 64; Mr Timothy Llewellyn, director, Henry Moore Foundation, 50; Sir Ian Lloyd, former MP, 76; Dr John Marks, former chairman, British Medical Association, 72; Dr Robert Mercer, Headmaster. Prior Park College, 48; Mr Antony Moore, former diplomat, 79: Mr Colin Myler, managing di-rector, *Daily Mirror*, 45: Lord Richard QC, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords, 65; Mr Clint Walker, film actor, 70: Mr Tim Waterstone, bookseller. 58; Mr Philip Whitehead, MEP, writer, television producer and former chairman, Consumers' Association, 60; Mr Bob Willis, cricketer, 48; Sir Frederick

Wood, honorary life president, Cro-

#### da International, 71.

Anniversaries Births: Peter the Oreas, Russia, 1672; Ignaz Moscheles, pi-1794; Samuel Births: Peter the Great, Tsar of anist and composer, 1794; Sam Spalding, moral philosopher, 1807: Mikhail Alexandrovich Bakunin, anarchist. 1814; Alfred Austin, poet, 5: Peter Carl (Karl Gustavovich)

Howard Winchester Hawks, film director, 1896; Benny (Benjamin David) Goodman, bandleader and clarinettist, 1909. Deaths: Joan of Arc, martyr, burnt at the stake at Rouen 1431; Christopher Marlowe, playwright, killed in a brawl 1593; Şir Peter Paul Rubens, painter, 1640; Alexander Pope, poet and satirist, 1744; François Boucher, painter, 1770; Voltaire (Francois-Marie Aronet), philosopher and writer, 1778; Thomas Chalmers, minister of the church, philanthropist and author, 1847; Wilbur Wright, pioneer aviator, 1912; Hermann Broch, poet and novelist, 1951; Dooley (Arthur) Wilson, singer, 1953; Boris Leonidovich Pasternak, poet and author,

Fabergé, goldsmith, 1846; Pierre

Marie-Felix Janet, psychologist, 1859;

composer, 1971. On this day: Christopher Columbus set sail on his third voyage, 1498; King Henry VIII was married to Jane Seymour, 1536; the Grenadier Quards were formed. 1656; Napoleon annexed Tuscany, 1808; John Francis attempted to assassinate Queen Victoria, 1842; Smetana's opera The Bartered Bride was first performed in Prague, 1866; Memorial Day (Decoration Day) was first observed in the United States, 1869; the Balkan War was ended by the Treaty of London, which created the new state of Albania, 1913; Cologne was raided by a large force of RAF aircraft, 1942; the first hovercraft flight took place at Cowes, Isle of Wight, 1959; Eastern Nigeria declared itself independent,

1960; Marcel Dupré, organist and

afra, 1967; the British Trans-Arctic Expedition completed the first surface crossing of the continent, 3,620 miles in 464 days, 1969; the first London production of the musical Little Me was presented, 1984. Today is the Feast Day of St Exuperantius of Ravenna, St Ferdinand of Castile, St

Isaac of Constantinople, St Joan of Arc, St Luke Kirby, St Madelgisilus

or Maugeille and St Walstan.

being renamed the Republic of Bi-

Lectures

National Gallery: Colin Wiggins, "Fruit and Flowers (5): the seasous", ipm.

Victoria and Albert Museum: Terry Bloxham, "Myth and Legends in Me-dieval Art", 230pm.

#### Byron Society

Mr Michael Foot, Deputy Chairman, presided over a meeting of the Byron Society held last night at St Ermin's Hotel, London SW1. Professor John Lucas spoke on "Byron and the Poetry of Opposition".

#### Synagogue services

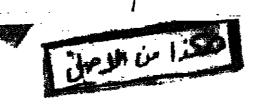
held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 8.52pm.

Details of synagogue services to be

Organs in London at O.J. Jul.
United Synangogues: 0181-33 8989, Federation of Synangogues: 0181-202 2263.
Union of Liberal and Progressive Synangogues: 0171-580 1663. Reform Synangogues of Great Britain: 0181-349 4731.
Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation: 0171-289 2573. New London Synangogues of Managorith 171-3278 1025. gogue (Masorti): 0171-328 1026.

# ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Queen visits 33 (The Royal) Saundron, RAF Northols, Middlexes and the Royal Think Regiment at Bovington, Dorset. The Prince of Whiles attends a passing out parache of new recruits to the Metropolition Publics Service at the Metropolition Publics Service at the Metropolition Public Service at the Metropolition Public Training School, Peel Centre. Hendon, London NW4; and visits the Jewellery Quarter. Brunnington. The Princess Royal, Patron, Central Serotland Countryside Thus, kunches the rare Natdrive Woodlands; up and running from Caldervale High School, Andrie, Langrishine; up Fatron, Sense - the National Deathfind and Rubella Association. opens the Countridge Community Hourses, Construige, Lanarishine; up Fatron, Northorn Lighthense Board, visits and inspect acids to alwignition in the Northern ties from NV Fingar; and launches Scotland, 's National Gardening Show Strathelyde Country Park, Motherwell, Lararishine. The Duke of Rent, President, Royal Nalightons (Station)

Changing of the Guard



# A fresh chance to talk sense about the euro

reak open a bottle of Best Schadenfreude and celebrate French elections has prompted a panic impossible not to enjoy the comedy of national stereotypes confounded. The German government, which has been lecturing slippery Italians and slapdash Spaniards on the sober virtues of doubleentry book-keeping, has been accused by the Bundesbank of creative accounting. What a piece of Mediterranean sharp practice it is too. Using the revaluation of the country's gold reserves to plug the government's borrowing requirement is a bit like remortgaging your house to pay off your credit card debts. At least our own late and unlamented Conservative government actually sold the family silver and took in some hard cash. Herr Kohl's book-cooker, Theo Waigel, wants to keep the gold and take the notional rise in its value into the current account. On that quicksand he wants to build the foundations of a new currency for the whole of Europe that would be stronger than the mark. As transport metaphors are favoured by the architects of European integration: it ain't no way to run a railroad.

It is not simply the discomfiting of German righteousness which is cheering, but the re-opening of the whole question of the timetable and design of monetary union. For most of our European partners that question was settled at Maastricht four years ago - but this week two

Schadenfreude and celebrate Helmut Kohl's troubles. It is rush for the lifeboat marked "soft euro". The centre-right coalition think their only hope in the second ballot is to talk of changing the criteria for the euro and easing the pain of convergence. That is serious. But should a crack open up in the other pillar, the German one, at the same time, it could bring the whole edifice down.

Britain's role should be to put a crowbar in both cracks and keep them open - a task for which this country is uniquely qualified. While Continental minds moved on to designing the notes and assembling committees to discuss the changeover, the debate over the fundamentals raged on in Britain, because of the running sore of Europhobia and the opt-out which it required. It may have been a poisonous business, but it has had its benefits. If there is one thing we Brits are experts on it is the defects of the Maastricht model - and that applies to pro-Europeans as much as to sceptics.

This newspaper has kept the European faith through the dark phase of Little Englander nationalism of recent years, but has repeatedly expressed worries about the democratic base of a single currency. Part of this is a matter of consent. French and German leaders have misled their peoples about the euro, justifying hard economic measures which they would have needed to carry out large cracks opened in that settlement. anyway on the need to meet the Maas-



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E145DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435 / 0171-345 2435

tricht criteria. Little wonder, then, that the euro is unpopular. But part of this is a fear that joining a single currency would cede political control to an "untried foreign quango", to quote Gavyn Davies, Independent columnist. Treasury adviser (and maybe a contender for the governorship of the Bank of England?).

So it is no bad thing if the German and French élites are forced to think again. It has turned out that the membership rules of this particular club were drawn up in such a way that the only big country eligible to join is one that is not ready to, does not want to and does not have to - the United Kingdom.

There are two possible solutions: change the rules or postpone the launch date. They are not mutually exclusive, and Europe should do both - but the important thing is to delay. Most especially, it would be a mistake simply to relax the criteria and let everyone have prizes. Some countries argue that they might not meet the criteria to the decimal point next spring, but they can demonstrate a clear trend in the right direction. If so, let them demonstrate it. What's the rush? If something like this is worth doing, it's worth getting it right.

Genuine economic convergence.

tion of stable monetary union, cannot be hurried just because some politicians in a post-war mind-set hit upon a date with a millennial ring to it in a dull Dutch town at the end of an already forgotten decade. Chancellor Kohl's argument is that the process is like riding a bicycle which will fall over if it stops. Nonsense. And so what if it does? That would only prove that our legs are not long enough to reach the ground. It is more persuasive to argue that Europe's leaders will not get on with it unless they have a deadline, but if the deadline is set too early the work will not be done properly.

As Herr Kohl shed tears this week, remembering the Marshall Plan which rebuilt Europe after the war, he marked the passing of his dream of European unity. He may well still win next year's German elections - the opposition SPD shows a depressing inability to present a potent challenge. But he has been seriously damaged by Germany's failure to qualify for the euro without resort to one-off expedients,

There is an unexpected opportunity here for Tony Blair to play the leading role in Europe which his campaign rhetoric promised, but which seemed implausible while the twin pillars of the Paris-Bonn arch stood firm. Mr Blair as he never tires of reminding us - comes from a different generation. His attitudes to Europe are not shaped by the memory of war. His view of the single curwhich everyone agrees is the precondi- rency is pragmatic - and Augustinian in

the sense that he is quite happy to be virtuous, but not yet. The least important consequence of this week's events is that it makes the Tory leadership contest look like a medieval theologians' debating competition. But even that adds to the sense that Mr Blair makes his own luck. and is well placed, tanked up with the rocket-fuel of his landslide victory, to seize his moment. If the single currency does need to be re-engineered, then this time Britain could really be at the heart of the debate.

#### Ideas folk need to be more driven

The trouble with British inventors is I that they are not inventive enough. It is all very well coming up with a black box that will, as we report today, alert the AA or RAC and tell them where vou are even before you break down. What about a black box that will order a pizza before you know you are hungry? What about a television that will switch itself off because it knows you will say, "Well, that was a waste of time" at the end of the programme? But back to cars and something really useful - what about a machine that can tell you where you parked your car? That's one the new Secretary of State for the Environment might find useful.

A message for

Sir. How about the mobile phone companies ("A word in your ear about mobile phones", 24 May)

tapped into the phone just before

the owner drives off? As with the

message and perhaps a short bleep

would alert the driver that a call

needed returning as soon as there

was parking space available. As you said, portable telephones are now

everywhere and no longer beloved

status symbols. The message "I

cannot answer my phone while I

soon as I can pull off the road"

satisfaction of importance and

driving problem than extra

legislation.

F M BASLEY

Sidcup, Kent

would give the owner the double

righteousness – an inducement far more likely to solve the phone /

Sir: I have just read Paul Spencer's letter on mobile phones (28 May).

It occurs to me that 30 years ago a virtually identical letter could have

been written by an opponent of

stronger legislation on drunken driving: "Any legislation to ban us of alcohol by motorists would be

another example of knee-jerk

lawmaking on the back of quite

justified public sympathy for an

point about this recent case is that

the driver was not just drunk; he

was also careless. Many thousand:

of innocent beer drinkers should

not be penalised for the few who

are guilty". ANNE-MARIE SUTCLIFFE

London SW16

innocent motorist killed. The

am driving but will call you back as

arranging a special code to be

current answering service, the

caller would hear a recorded

phone users

#### • LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

#### Patients know the worth of psychotherapy

Sir: Claims and counter-claims have always been made for the efficacy of the psychological therapies. To prevent malpractice, it is crucial that the public should have access to accurate information about whether talking treatments work.

In this respect Jerome Burne's article ("Therapists - who needs them?", 28 May 1997) is something of a curate's egg. It is true - and has long been known - that psychotherapists are relatively poor at predicting behaviour. It is also the case that their predictions are improved if they utilise actuarial and research-based information, and take care to distinguish between facts and inferences about their patients. However, the article makes the error of assuming that because psychotherapists are poor at performing certain tasks. psychotherapy itself is ineffective. a conclusion at variance with the facts.

The Department of Health has recently published a strategic review of the provision and organisation of psychological therapy in the NHS, as a part of which Peter Fonagy and I were commissioned systematically to review research into the efficacy of the psychotherapies. We noted that there are many forms of psychological therapy, and that though there is more research on some forms than others, there is good evidence that therapies are effective for many people, across a wide range of major mental health conditions - these are not just treatments for people with minor wornes.

Though outcomes were at least partly dependent on the skill with which therapies were carried out, we also concluded that many factors contribute to success - we are far from understanding how therapy works, and what therapies work best for each individual patient. If practitioners are realistic they will avoid making inflated claims for their treatments - the best guide will be the response of the patient. Dr TONY ROTH

University College, London London WCI

Sir: Jerome Burne's report of Professor Robyn Dawes' work implies the endemic confusion between psychiatrists. psychologists and psychotherapists. Their work is usually distinct. For example, while prison inmates and addicts in the UK may get to see a psychiatrist or a psychologist, few are offered psychotherapy. The reason is simple: it is often lengthy and expensive. Relatively little of it is publicly funded and when it is. like most other treatments, it is rationed.

There are problems with psychotherapy in Britain as there clearly are with its image. Regulation of the profession is still in its early stages. Psychotherapy is a term used to cover a variety of approaches, some of which could be suspect and this needs urgent attention. By its nature, the enterprise is confidential, even secretive, and this poses its own dangers and fantasies. Moreover. research into the psychotherapies is relatively recent.

But Mr Burne and those who share his views and perhaps fears. might consider that each time someone enters a psychotherapeutic relationship, this is in itself an experiment which warrants all the ethics and safeguards of any experimental



procedure. The determination of success or failure, however, remains in the domain of the patient. ANN KTITEK

Member, British Confederation of Psychotherapists London SW6

#### Change the EMU timetable

Sir: An opportunity to seize the initiative on EMU is emerging for the new Labour government, based on the likely outcome of the French elections next week (leading article, 27 May). The single currency will struggle to start on schedule on 1 January 1999, following the signal sent out by the French electorate.

Meanwhile, in Germany, public opinion is also moving against measures being taken to meet the deficit requirement for 1 January 1999. Gradual budget adjustment. rather than one-off measures, is vital for sustainable convergence. Both Germany and France have opted for one-offs: the French government in making a shady deal with France Telecom: the German government in opting to revalue its gold reserves.

This new situation offers two possible scenarios for the launch of the euro:

1) A fudged EMU, starting on time on 1 January 1999, in which countries take measures which are unsustainable and which ultimately run into problems with the Stability Pact

2) Postponement of EMU for up to one year to encourage a softening of the fiscal "run-in" to meet the Maastricht criteria, and at the same time allow the revised fiscal adjustments to combine with

firm economic plans aimed at jobcreation.

European leaders must revise the EMU timetable. If they don't, there will be a fudged EMU on 1 January 1999 with key member states holding budgetary positions which are unsustainable. An emphasis on employment measure coupled with a smooth run-in to monetary union is better than a rushed and deflationary entry which could all end in tears. MARK HENDRICK MEP (Lancashire Central, Lab) Brussels The writer is Labour Spokesperson

on Economic and Monetary Affairs іп Ешгоре

#### Where's the profit in funding film?

Sir: It is always encouraging to read of British success nurtured by grants ("British film-maker returns £1m lottery grant as he hits jackpot at box office", 29 May) but one unanswered question is: what share of the profits is also received by the funding organisation for taking the risk?

By my calculations the British film industry, on a film cost of £1.8m and a grant of £980,000, should be receiving about 54 per cent of the profit. Are they? If not, then Gary Smith is right in his statement "The British film industry has always lacked financial discipline . . . JONÁTHAN YOUENS Sideup, Kent

#### Boy soldiers died to help morale

Sir: Your excellent article ("Labour pardon for war 'cowards' ", 27 May) demonstrates unassailably the case for a general pardon for most of the 307 British soldiers executed for cowardice" in the First World War. However, it misses one

underlying and crucial truth which is the key to a proper understanding of this shameful episode in our history. In a war which raged with such horrendous bitterness for so long, it was inevitable that the fighting morale of the front-line troops would become the primary objective of Army chiefs. It was both logical and essential that a number of men along the entire front should be sacrificed at times of greatest peril 'pour encourager les aurres".

"Cowardice in the face of the enemy" was never intended to be taken seriously as a moral or legal judgement against individual soldiers. It was merely a legal fiction - a socially acceptable formula to justify official brutality to avoid a greater evil, and concepts such as a fair trial, legal representation, and the weighing of evidence had nothing to do with the overall strategy. Indeed they would have been counter-productive and self-defeating. Any real court of justice would have been bound to acquit or postpone the execution of most or all of the men concerned. The consequences of that would have been catastrophic and could have lost the Allies the entire war.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the 307 who played their part in defeating German expansionism by making their sacrifice before a British firing squad just as bravely as those who died in the trenches. RUPERT MONTAGUE MARTIN Society of Advocates of Justice Phymouth, Devon

#### Replacing orange with green

Sir: David McKittrick's analysis of the post-election politics in Northern Ireland ("Northern Ireland changes colour", 28 May) reveals the replacement of an orange hegemony by a green one. There is no new political landscape in view, only an

inversion of the old one. One can predict failure for the present talks because, even in the event of an unequivocal IRA ceasefire it is not in the interests of the Unionists to set in motion a regional assembly which will be increasingly dominated by nationalists more "ambitious and energetic than ever" - Stormont with the boot on the other foot. The only faint chance of success would be if mainstream British political parties started to organise in the region, drawing supporters from both traditions and thus helping to dissolve the intransigent ethno-religious blocs. Why is "inclusive" new Labour so silent about this possibility? SIMON PARTRIDGE London N2

#### Sir: As a backwoodsman Conservative peer with a poor attendance record in the House of

example to peers

Rothermere's

Lords, due to office hours rather than lack of interest, I read with interest Lord Rothermere's panegyric to Tony Blair (report, 26 I have some sympathy with what

Lord Rothermere said, but what does stick in the gullet is that this comes from somebody who. presumably because he does not wish to pay tax in this country, lives in Paris. He is, I assume, only permitted to spend 90 days in England's "green and pleasant land" each year. How does he therefore aspire to know anything of the coming of what he calls \*political maturity" and of who is best suited to govern this country?

Lord Rothermere is on record as saying that although he has sworn the oath of allegiance to Her Majesty in Parliament and sat down on the Labour benches he has no intention of following the Labour whip.

The Prime Minister may not be so amused to see Lord Rothermere vote against the Government; nor indeed should Lord Rothermere be disappointed if the quarantine rules are not changed to allow his beloved pooch to travel freely from the canine parlours of Paris to those of London.

If Lord Rothermere believes that this is the way to boost the circulation of his publications. I beg to differ. Earl DE LA WARR Buckhurst Park.

#### Dental memories are made of this

Sir: The answer to Alec Just's memory problem (Letters, 29 May was first explained by the German osychologist Elizabeth Zeigarnik i 1927 when she found that memory for uncompleted tasks was superic to that for completed tasks. Interrupted, or uncompleted, task generate "tension". However, this tension dissipates over a relatively short period of time, certainly less than 24 hours, after which there is no difference in task recall. Hence

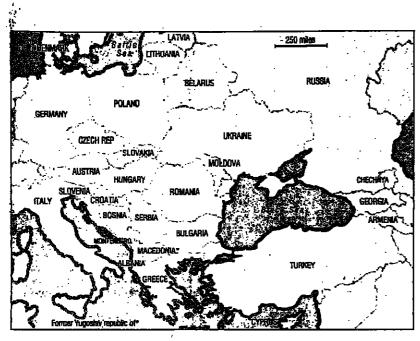
Mr Just's daily dilemma. My solution to Mr Just's specific problem is that he cleans all but one of his teeth. Adopting a rota for omission should help to ensure continued dental hygiene. Alternatively, he could try drinkin all his coffee. Dr PETER DAVIES Head of Department of Psychology University of Leeds

## Rewarding words from R B Kitaj

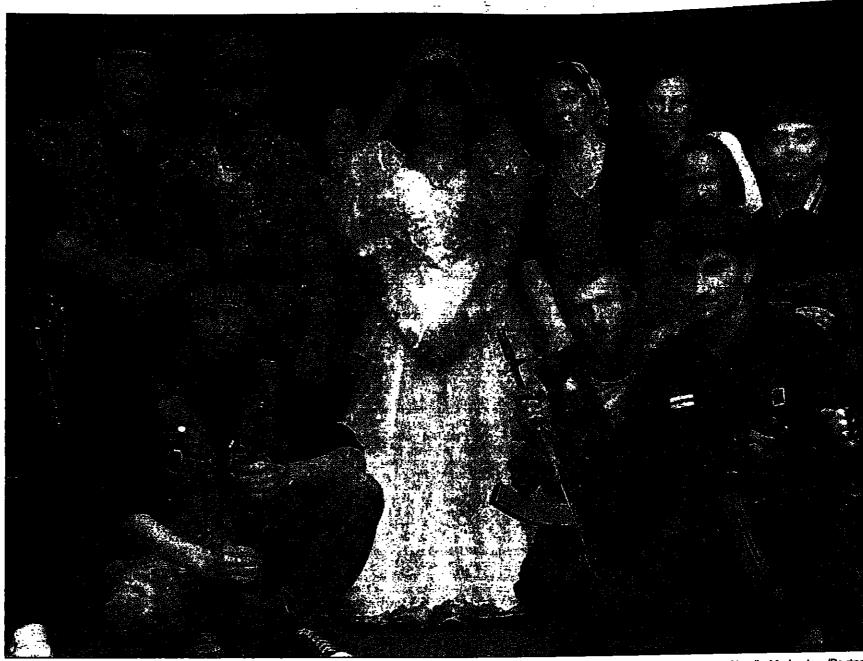
Sir: It seems that the commentaries accompanying R F Kitaj's paintings in his retrospective exhibition at the Tai Gallery in 1994 are still a matter ( controversy ("Kitaj and the firing squad", 27 May).

I should therefore like to record my appreciation of these. At an exhibition, I find it far more rewarding, after straining through my bifocals, to find such informative commentaries than simply to learn that a work is \*Untitled, 1990. Private collection Switzerland". R COOK London W71

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are smable to acknowledge unpublished letters.



Although war, persecution and internecine strife have tortured the peoples of Europe for the whole of this century, there are signs in the East of a more peaceful and tolerant future, writes Tony Barber



Beauty and the beast: Chechen fighters last September take a break from their war with Russia to celebrate a wedding

# Europe can live in wedded bliss

of a better, more peaceful, more tolerant Europe in the next century, the Liska cemetery in the divided Bosnian city of Mostar has a tale to tell. It contains the remains of Muslims and Croats who were killed in 1992 when fighting together against the Bosnian Serbs. It ought to be a place for private grief and reflection; but in modern Europe, it seems, nationalism refuses to leave even the dead

Mostar's Croat mayor, Ivan Prskalo, wants to exhume the remains of people buried in the cemetery, ostensibly because their shallow graves pose health risks. The real motives behind his proposal are, to Muslims and Western diplomats monitoring the situation, transparently clear. They are to separate the remains of Croats from those of Muslims, to create an "ethnically cleansed", purely Croat cemetery, and to erase from history and people's memories the fact that Croats and Muslims were once united in a common cause.

This unpleasant episode serves as a reminder, if Europeans need one, that extreme nationalism, political persecution and the aggressive cele-bration of one people's supposed superiority over another have been features all too typical of our continent in this century. From Ireland to Russia, from Germany to Turkey, national, ethnic and religious minorities have been the victims of hatred and violence on a scale without historical

Although almost 50 years passed without a major confla-gration after 1945, the Bosnian war confirmed that Europe had not seen the last of conflicts set alight by extremists in positions of power and fanned by popular cultures of nationally or ethnically based intolerance, rivalry, suspicion and ignorance.

But was the Bosnian war exceptional? Are Mr Prskalo and others like him members of

a dying breed? Will Europe prove capable of overcoming poisonous nationalisms in the next century, or will national-

ist poisons overcome Europe? With the emotions of Serbs, Croats and Muslims still raw, and with the long-simmering Cyprus dispute threatening to boil over once more, some Europeans find more grounds for pessimism than hope. Yet the picture is by no means uniformly bleak. In much of central and eastern Europe, the region most troubled by nationalist and ethnic confrontations in recent years, the waters are calmer than at any time since the demise of Communism in

> Hungary and Romania, two neighbours with historical grudges against each other, have signed a treaty pledging respect for existing frontiers and minority rights. So have Hungary and Slovakia. Romania and Ukraine are set to follow suit. Further to the north, Poland has settled its borders and proclaimed new friendships with Germany and

These treaties could be dismissed as mere pieces of paper, which any of the governments in question will disregard if it feels so inclined. However, when compared with the various broken promises of lasting peace and goodwill that the states of western, central and eastern Europe made to one another in the 1920s and 1930s, the new treaties seem to carry greater sincerity and weight.

For one thing, the Hungarians, Romanians, Ukrainians and others recognise that the treaties have an intrinsic value, bearing on the region's stability and prosperity. For another, there is, this time, no great outside power – an expansionist, racist Nazi Germany or an autarkic, totalitarian Soviet Union - wishing to subjugate the region.

Lastly, if the new democracies that have signed the treaties of reconciliation wish to be included in the most important Western institutions, notably Nato and the European Union, they will have a strong incentive to honour their commitments.

embership of such organisations offers the central and eastern Europeans the chance to heal old wounds in the way that France and Germany did after 1945. By the same token, failure to meet appropriate standards of internal democracy and respect for civil rights will

bring international isolation. This is a lesson that Serbia and Croatia are still learning. Eighteen months after the end of the Bosnian war, neither is considered ready for complete international rehabilitation. The US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, put the

point bluntly in Washington on 15 May when she warned the visiting Croatian foreign minister that recent Croatian mob violence against minority Serbs had been intolerable and would hold up Croatia's integration into the Western world.

The lesson applies to Slovakia, too, though in less stark fashion. Thanks to the bullying intolerance and occasionally sinister political methods of its prime minister, Vladimir Meciar, Slovakia is being left behind as its Czech, Hungarian and Polish neighbours proceed to Nato membership.

Thoughtful Slovaks realise

this and are impatient for the chance to vote out Mr Meciar at the next election. They see how the international image of Bulgaria and Romania underwent a vast improvement after the recent election victories of reformist opposition movements. In Romania, the triumph of enlightened democrats over ex-Communists and rabid nationalists could prove to be a watershed in the nation's history, a decisive break with this century's Romanian tradition of reaction, repression and extreme nationalism.

by the new leaders of Bulgaria and Romania, Ivan Kostov and Emil Constantinescu, has been matched to a considerable extent by Greece's Prime Min-ister, Costas Simitis. For several years after 1992. Grecce's foreign relations were in turmoil. Quarrels with Albania, the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia and Turkey left Greece isolated in the EU and with not many friends outside, one embarrassing exception being Serbia. A mood of nationalist hysteria was being encouraged

The promising example set

inside Greece over the alleged threat to the country posed by ex-Yugoslav Macedonia. Mr Simitis has tried with

some success to change all this. since he replaced the dying Andreas Papandreou as prime minister in early 1996. He has played down the Macedonian issue, cultivated better relations with Albania and most strikingly, taken several small but significant steps in the direction of a dialogue with Turkey. Of these, the one winning most attention is the decision to set up a committee of Greek and Turkish experts to look at what are called "procedural aspects" of solving the problems in Greek-Turkish relations.

It may not sound like much, but the importance of this initiative becomes clear when it is remembered that it is less than 18 months since Greece and Turkey came close to war over a crop of disputed islets in the Aegean Sea. More than a few European diplomats and foreign policy specialists have warned recently that, if a war were to break out in Europe early in the next century, the likeliest cause would be Greek-Turkish hostility. Tensions on Cyprus rose last year to levels unseen since the 1974 Turkish invasion, and grew especially sharp last January when the Greek Cypriot government announced that it was buying a

batch of Russian surface-to-air missiles. It would be futile to pretend that these tensions are going to disappear quickly, or that the type of virulent nationalism that led to Greek-Turkish wars in the first quarter of this century is on the point of dying out. Yet it may just be that, having looked at the abyss, the Greek

and Turkish governments have decided to pull back. There is certainly a more positive spirit of co-operation in the Aegean air now than for many a year. It will need active involvement from the United States and the EU to keep it alive.

urther east, in Russia and Ukraine, the political skies are much less cloudy and threatening than many commentators in the West assume. Ultra-national-ism and ethnically related violence, two vicious products of the collapse of Communism in 1991, are on the wane. Three particular developments in the last year suggest that Russia and Ukraine, whose stability is so crucial to Europe's security, may have passed the point of

greatest danger. The first is the end of the Chechen conflict, a war which showed Russia's young democracy in its worst light. It seems unlikely that President Boris Yeltsin and his newly appointed reformist government has any intention of relaunching the war. That, in turn, reduces the risk of multiple Russian-Islamic guerrilla conflicts extending across much of the northern Caucacus for well into the next century. Such a risk appeared quite high when the Russian army intervened in Chechnya in December 1994.

The second development is the lapse into relative obscurity of Vladimir Zhirinovsky and his noxious brand of extreme Russian nationalism. Even the more sanitised version ourveyed by the neo-Communist Gennady Zyuganov, Mr Yeltsin's presidential challenger last year, has less and less popular appeal in Russia.

consolidation of the Ukrainian state and the absence of any substantial separatist movement in the Russian-populated regions of eastern Ukraine. Russian separatism in the Crimean peninsula loomed as a serious threat in 1993-94, but now seems a spent force. Though not yet settled on firm foundations. Russian-Ukrainian relations no longer provide grounds for fearing the apocalypse of a war that might suck in the rest of

Europe. The gradual stabilisation of central and eastern Europe is symbolised by Nato's deal this week with Russia, under which the two sides will forge a close political and security partnership while enabling the Western alliance to incorporate the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland. It is a deal that needs to be followed up with special arrangements for others in the region, notably Ukraine and the Baltic states. The EU's enlargement eastwards will

There are then some grounds for hoping that Europe will be a more secure, more tolerant continent in the next century. But will it lead, in time, to the emergence of a common European identity, complementing national

Massimo d'Azeglio, the Italian statesman, said after the 1859-60 Wars of Unification: "We have created Italy. Now

we have to create the Italians." In this century, after two world wars and the Cold War, Europe is finally being created as a free, undivided entity. To create Europeans is the task of

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he retiring Eric Can- a copyright on words and tona, football's kung fu things that you have not philosopher, is applying for a couple of copyrights, the proceeds from copyright on, say, "When the which will help see him seager's follow zee trawler, through his old age. The first zey do eet because zey zink of these is for the words Ooh-ah! Cantona! - a slogan into ze sea"? This is undeni-

invented and chanted by faithful fans at Old Trafford. The second is the number 7 with his name on top - as emblazoned on the back of the Manchester United shirt watertight either, is it? Conthat he wore with so much

success.

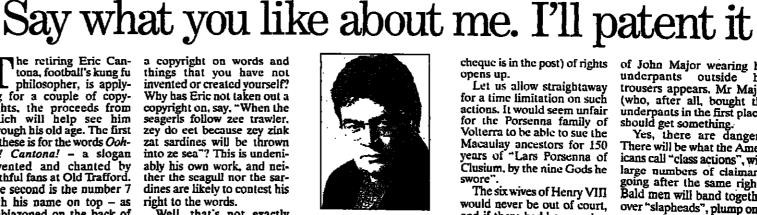
Eric has a point here. There are thousands of rough-looking men with hairy necks making a packet out of selling Cantona shirts and Ooh-ah! memorabilia. In the latter case, it can only be a matter of time before the words fall into the hands of pornographers and are used to sell unpleasant products. ref - you short-sighted little
And all this happens - or is c\*\*\*!" And all this happens - or is yet to happen - without the star earning a sou from it himhim for wanting to cash in on

his own act. Ah, I hear you object (though not ooh-ah, I think), but isn't it a bit odd claiming

invented or created yourself? Why has Eric not taken out a ably his own work, and neither the seaguil nor the sardines are likely to contest his right to the words. Well, that's not exactly

sider the phrases that people might be said to have made their own either by invention or constant repetition. Remaining in the world of football for just a moment, Arsenal striker Ian Wright, who has this week booked in on an "anger management" course, would face stiff competition from fellow pros for Millerisms such as "F\*\*\* off,

Nobody other than the estate of the late Larry self. You can hardly blame Grayson would be able to print the words "shut that door!" without paying a hefty commission. Whoever got "the cheque is in the post" would pretty soon never have (my apologies to Disney; the Surely every time the image



**David** Aaronovitch

to use the phrase again. What about the man or woman who successfully manages to corner the market in "make mine a half"? Within months, this person would rival the inventor of cat's eyes by earning unbelievably huge sums from millions of teeny copyright

So there are problems even Where it is not, the case becomes even more interesting. If it is possible to copyright what others say or write

opens up. Let us allow straightaway for a time limitation on such actions. It would seem unfair for the Porsenna family of Volterra to be able to sue the Macaulay ancestors for 150 years of "Lars Porsenna of Clusium, by the nine Gods he

The six wives of Henry VIII would never be out of court, and if there had been such a man as the Ancient Mariner, dozens of 20th century descendants could now be expecting a big payout; friends and acquaintances would never hear the last of it. Fights would break out over who Don Giovanni was, and DNA tests taken to establish whether Eroica was the name of Beethoven's secret mistress.

This cannot be an argument against taking action. however. Is it fair to Peter Mandelson that others should be able to cash in on "New where authorship is the issue. Labour's Macchiavelli" and he doesn't get a sausage? Or to the Prime Minister that Tshirts are already on sale bearing the number 10 and about you, a whole new world the legend, "Call Me Tony"?

cheque is in the post) of rights of John Major wearing his underpants outside trousers appears. Mr Major (who, after all, bought the underpants in the first place) should get something.

Yes, there are dangers. There will be what the Americans call "class actions", with large numbers of claimants going after the same rights. Bald men will band together over "slapheads", plump ones over "fatty", and largebosomed women over "cor, look at the knockers on that!" And if one of the consequences were that these newly expensive phrases got trotted out less often, would that really be so bad?

But let me come clean - I can also see some pecuniary advantage for myself in all this. My own avaricious eves are set on "what on earth is funny about that?" and "if I looked like him, I'd ask not to have a photo at the top of my column". And just this week I sensed that I could have earned a few quid had I nipped down to the copyright office and registered "thank God Miles Kington is back on Mondayl" Which, of course, he is.

معتدا ن الاحل



d bliss

# It's a Lottery – but Camelot has earned its dosh

ry as I may. I cannot join in the universal outrage over massive pay rises for the directors of the National Lottery operator, Camelot. Pay them the dosh, I say, they are entitled to it. And I am not being ironic. Yes, donations by the Lottery to good causes fell by £143m last year, but the bonus that has netted its chief executive. Tim. Hollan and executive Tim Holley an increase from £385,000 to £590,000 a year was, under the terms of the contract that Camelot signed with the Gov-ernment, linked to the company's performance in the com-pany's performance in the pre-ceding year, which raked in much higher amounts.

That contract was designed to maximise the amounts of money the lottery raised. The

government wanted this because payments to the so-called "good causes" in many cases are substitutes for amounts that previously came from the public purse. And as well as saving on public spending, it also brings in extra taxes. To date £1.4bn has gone into the coffers of the Treasury, in add-ition to the £3.6bn saved in donations to good causes. In order that it should yield such huge sums, the Government set performance targets for the first three years of lottery operation, and the Camelot bosses have met them.

That's the way the private sector works. Directors can pay themselves whatever the

market will bear and their shareholders will tolmarket will bear and their shareholders will tol-erate. Camelot's shareholders – all large, quoted companies such as De La Rue, Cad-bury Schweppes, ICL and Racal, for there are no individual small shareholders in Camelor - presumably are quite happy with the situa-tion. And individuals who hold shares in Cadbury etc must be happy too, having benefited from higher dividends as a result of their share in the Lottery booty. All shall have prizes.

Indignation at the whopping pay increases

- Camelot's communications director David Rigg got a 90 per cent rise, from £175,000 to £333,000 a year – is based on the insistence that the Lottery isn't really part of the private sector. Rather, as a government monopoly administered by a private sector company, it is seen as a hybrid, which must remain sensitive to political considerations.

It is precisely this hybrid state of affairs that prompted free-marketeers to insist, when the Lottery was launched, that there should be no monopoly. Instead they wanted to allow as many lotteries as the public would support. Then there could be no public utility-style "fat cat pay rows", because the lottery sector

genuinely open to competi The trouble with that, as even a party as ideological as the Tories could see, was that it would raise a lot less money. In lotteries, size matters. It is massive prizes that attract pun- choose them myself, thank you. When I want said vesterday that it wanted a third one, to ter odds. And in the unlikely event that I ever boost scratch card sales) and you couldn't jus- won. I would not want to win something that



Paul Vallely

The public feels it is OK to make a fortune from

playing a lottery, but immoral to do so by running

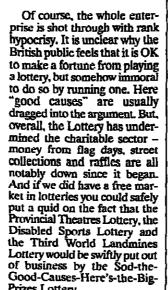
one

profit lottery when the Camelot contract runs out, if not sooner. "This is the people's lottery and the money raised from it should reflect the people's priorities," said a sanctimonious state-

less able to work out the "people's priorities" than the straightforward mechanism of letting an elevation of the human craving to grab as

Let them take the money, and if it helps dis-

ters. So does a slot on prime-time TV (Camelot to gamble I will look for something with far bettify that for every draw in a market free-for all. sent me scuttling off into hiding from my past.



Prizes Lottery.

Good causes are a fig-leaf. They salve consciences that might prickle at the naked truth that the National Lottery is an enterprise predicated on greed.
And a particularly glib kind of greed, as was acknowledged by Mrs Thatcher, who refused to introduce it when she was prime minister, saying it would sap initiative and promote a something-for-nothing culture.

Her successors ignored that

Her successors ignored that and plumped for a loads-of-money lottery run by private enterprise with target-oriented bonuses to maximise profits. New Labour, like the new climate that has brought it in, does not approve. It wants a non-

ment from Downing Street.
The result will probably be a state-run lottery that is less ruthlessly efficient and therefore brings in less cash. Whatever reforms are introduced to the allocation of lottery cash, the decisions will rest with a body that is inevitably them give direct to the charities they approve of. More than that, it will rest upon the same impulses as those that have brought Mr Holley and his fellows their gargantuan pay rises: much as we can for as little effort as possible.

credit the whole fetid lottery concept, then so much the better. Saturday's £12.3m National Lottery jackpot winner went into hiding yesterday, on the first day of his new life as a multimillionaire. Camelot said he and his family had gone on holiday and would not be returning to their three-bedroom terraced home in sslev Hill Liverpool, outside which a 19year-old model vesterday posed topless holding Lottery tickets for press photographers.

When I want to give to good causes I will



# What about the pilchard?

government" again has the red boxes in its clutches. Labour rode into power on the back of the British bulldog. But in Millbank and Islington, the traditions of old England aren't everyone's plate of gnocchi. Amid a crowded legislative programme, if not in the current parliamentary session, it also means to ban hunting. The "New" proletariat for Labour,

foxy-woxy.

Peter Singer, the Australian utilitarian philosopher and prominent anti-hunting guru, declared in a recent newspaper article: "Fish are often losers in the animal rights debate," a claim underlined by the article's accompanying graphic of a none-too-chipper-looking trout

once tribunes of the horny-

handed sons of toil, is the poor

impaled on an angler's hook. Singer's world is not that of the tiger smooching over offal, or the whale gulping krill. His vision is of nature defanged, and of humans as its moral equal, except where being "human" involves doing what comes naturally to carnivores.

Singer regrets the vogue for discussing animal welfare in terms of rights. Like all fundamentalisms, the animal jihad has spawned its schismatics, like the philosopher Tom Regan. who to Singer's indignation makes his case in precisely these terms. Singer understandably balks at talk of pilchard rights. to the staphylococci and gonococci. No one much cares for a crab-louse.

Denizens of the jungle - the lion tugging innards from its still-conscious prey - remain happily ignorant of these fictions. Where their rights come from, what justifies them, how they're exercised - all this

Instead of rights, Singer advocates utilitarianism, reckoning pains and pleasures in a big sum. It is, however, an imprudent animal-fancier who decides matters thus. You can get an awful lot of steaks out of a cow, and much else besides; utilitarians have to weigh the joy of beef against the pain of slaughter. But this util-talk of weighing,

or of calculation, is idle bombast. Nobody knows how to do the sum, and utilitarians who claim otherwise are deluded or mendacious. This problem is mitigated, though, if the suffering of the abattoir can be eliminated. We can do this by exploiting the knack - at which humans are uniquely proficient – of killing things painlessly. This is more than can be said for the mis-named animal kingdom, which witnesses a savagery unknown to

the late Emperor Bokassa. Singer quotes Jeremy Ben-tham's question: "Can they suf-fer?" as the test of moral consideration. But then there's nothing wrong with animal slaughter, as long as it's painless. Singer can eat his fishcake and have it, his conscience salved by the thought that he is only doing what he should. Why settle for less when you can have it all?

Utilitarianism is ill-placed to become, the stronger the utilithem; utility monsters, devouring all in their maw, jeopardise Bentham's demand that each

#### by Glen Newey

for more than one. There may be those - and which utilitarian will censure them? - whose penchant is for animal slaughter, but whose tender consciences forbid them to refrain from consuming its unavoidable byproduct, however unpalatable. On the other hand, vegetarians such as Adolf Hitler and Alan Clark MP, grimly masticating their nut-roasts, stint themselves to no good utilitarian purpose.

Singer has dilated on cases like Washoe, the chimp who supposedly learned the rudi-ments of a vocabulary. Dogowners will know their charges to be capable of no less. My own Belgian shepherd, only too eager at other times to savage a passing bunny, or rip the post-man's arm from its socket, is a veritable Fowler in discriminating the niceties of "walkies". "milk", and "din-dins".

nyway, basing moral assessment on similarity to Homo sapiens betrays a dangerously humanistic bias. Why not take bestial behaviour as our guide, abandoning the quest to detect kinship in every wombat or baboon? Then we could sanction cannibalism. slaughter, incest - in short, the whole gamut of behavioural disorders known to ethology.

The first edition of Singer's

book Animal Liberation included an appendix entitled "Eating for liberated people" down the sub-human menagerie erences. Indeed, the more with a set of meatless recipes, crazed in their bloodlust people to press an appeal to the belly where that to reason had failed. tarian's reasons for propitiating Many of us, who judged this the finest part of the book, and used the recipes extensively, were disappointed to see it should count for one and none removed from subsequent edi-

tions. I always found, however, that the recipes could be improved by the addition of some beef-mince, and that dripping made a relishable alternative to the cooking agents Singer recommends. My free recipe-sheet. Professor Petc's Meat Treat, is available on

Singer deplores "blood-sports" like fox-hunting and angling (but not boxing). This at least goes one step beyond Labour, which remains keenly aware that millions of voters pass their weekends at the end of a line and hook. Unfortunately, Singer misses the most compelling argument against fox-hunting; it's a lamentably inefficient way to kill foxes.

Automobiles slay four times more than the oafs in pink. So

the best way to contain them is to build more roads. Many more animal deaths - the lambs, chickens and other livestock massacred - will be avoided in the long run.
At the risk of labouring the

point, this is an argument for animal welfare: a fox in a henrun can decapitate 20 birds in a short evening's work. My late uncle Stan was adept at dispatching the culprits with his pitchfork. Animal welfarism is largely a

metropolitan fad: the left's decline has made the animal mullahs tribunes of a new, conveniently dumb, proletaria RSPB membership is seven times that of British Amnesty.

A number of fantasies combine in animal activism. The first is that nature is, uncomplicatedly, nice. Singerism offers a politics of ease, with beasts made the mouthpiece for their phy at Sussex University.

human champions' rancour at loss or dispossession. A second is that it is possible to keep a morally clean sheet. But politi-cally the question is not equal-ity, but economy of effort; sooner or later politicians have to decide whether Rwandans or trout matter more.

The third delusion, pervasive in much activism, is the belief, implicit in the rhetoric of anti-'species-ism", that the situation of animals resembles historical struggles for human emancipation. Finally, there's the illusion that we could have a perspective on our relations with animals which was other than a human perspective.

Politically, fox-hunting is a red herring, re-staging the old red-in-tooth-and-claw class politics as a Blue Peter appeal. This is bad news for our political culture, though of a piece with the vacuo-politics of Blairism. Never mind. The future promises new gastronomic adventures. The ostrich-burger is a fact of life in good supermarkets; a butcher near my home specialises in souirrel-meat.

It's sometimes said that we shouldn't eat meat, because we should regard animals as aesthetic objects, or as fellow passengers on Spaceship Earth. But it's hard to see why seeing animals as fellow Earthlings, or appreciating them aesthetically, should stop us eating them. Indeed, the pleasure afforded by meat-balls or cassoulet is one form which this appreciation

Should we worry more about the morality of eating meat than lions do? To the carnivore we can say, as to the gazelle-guzzling jungle cats: bon appetit!

The writer is Lecturer in Philoso

# Hope in the Valleys

Peter Hain, new broom at the Welsh Office, tells Tony Heath how investment is to be redirected to help the old pit towns

began wafting up the south Wales val-leys, once the coal capital of the world, now brought low by pit closures. Things, it was whispered, could only get better. Greened over by the cosmeticians of the Welsh Development Agency, the landscape now invites tourist cliches from drivers heading north from the M4. Visitors may even turn off at one of the heritage parks and mining museums before debauching in the open spaces of mid-Wales. Most former mining villages are now bypassed. Resolven, where Peter Hain,

charged with promoting the principality's economy, lives, is one such community. Speaking exclusively to The Independent this week, he explained how he intended to bring some of the prosperity enjoyed in the coastal regions 20 miles south to his adopted home area. The problems faced by the 600,000 people living in the valleys are those of an inner-city spread across an area 60 miles by 20. he declared. How did the problems of high unemployment, rising crime, a drug culture and social decay

come to be visited on scores of commu-

nities once so cohesive that front doors

MP for Neath and Welsh Office minister

were routinely left unlocked, and co-operation rather than competition ruled? With Tory support in the valleys always low, it was not surprising that in the last 18 years public money was thrown at prestige projects like the Cardiff Bay development and at big overseas investors setting up along the M4 corridor. The valleys remained the poor relation. In 1988, the then Welsh Secretary Peter (now Lord) Walker launched The Valleys initiative" to a deafening publicity fanfare. The scheme, subsequently repackaged by his successors, was long on public relations and

short on action. Dr Kevin Morgan, of the department of planning at the University of Wales. Cardiff, is dismissive. "It was simply a slick marketing exercise," he said. Mr Hain concedes that the valleys were greened and the

Blaenant, the last colliery in the constituency, closed with the loss of 600 iobs. It was a devastating blow which fuelled a determination to fight back. Mr Hain per-suaded British Telecom to join a pri-



vate/public partnership to set up a first attempt at a hi-tech industrial village. Still in its early stages, the project has brought hope to the community. Now in office, he has asked his officials to develop the "industrial village concept".

Mr Hain points out that valley communities are not like the rural retreats of the West Country or the Lake District. Neither are they a commuter belt sending staff to the hi-tech factories along the coastal strip. Public transport is poor. Privatised bus services are patchy. Many rail links were ripped up when collieries closed. marooning sizeable towns. The rugged terrain rules out large factories. The policy of putting sheds - the term for mini-factory estates - on reclaimed land has not been wholly successful.

Some of the £7bn Welsh Office budget is likely to be switched to establishing

Soon after 1 May, a breeze of hope environment upgraded, but adds: "Jobs began wafting up the south Wales valleys, once the coal capital of the entered parliament in 1991, ject by the Korean electronics conglomerject by the Korean electronics conglomer-ate LG taking shape at Newport offers a way forward. LG itself will employ 6,000, with another 15,000 jobs estimated to be created in the supply trades.

"I shall be telling companies such as LG that we want their suppliers to locate in the valleys," Mr Hain asserts. Making sure that the benefits promised by the big hitters radiate outwards will be a priority. Mr Hain will today make what he

hopes will be the first of a series of "good jobs news" announcements. He has a fine line to tread, balancing the claims of major overseas investors stuffed with yen or marks with those of smaller firms.
There must be a move towards positive discrimination in favour of the valleys. 'After all, these places were born as industrial villages when coal was discovered. A lot of blood and sweat was shed when they acted as the energy powerhouse of Britain. There is a debt owing - one which in all conscience must be repaid," he says. From his home above Resolven, the

minister has a sweeping view of a landscape changed beyond recognition since the pit-closure programme galloped ahead after the 1984-85 strike. A dual carriageway snakes up the valley. Hillsides are clothed in conifers. A canal has been massaged into a tourist attraction. A couple of ears ago, the valley played host to the Royal National Eisteddfod. Another change on the horizon gnaws away. Lucas is closing its factory at Neath eight miles down the valley with the loss of around 600 jobs. Production is being shifted to Poland, where the wage bill will be slashed in half.

Undeterred, Mr Hain is adamant: "Wales is the place to be. I want to see that the valleys are marketed properly. People here are adaptable and flexible and proud. They've been through troubled times." A new broom, he is intent on sweeping cleanly, and hopes to turn the zephyr of hope into a wind of economic change.

#### It's a plane, it's a train ... it's free

ment by Eurotunnel, the company behind the Channel Tunnel – which could be in profit by 2005 - may have had bankers and small shareholders reaching for their pearlhandled revolvers. But even if the motley crew of French dentists and lawyers, American distressed-debt fund managers and Japanese bankers might not be missed, they should not pull the trigger.

The company may be mired in £9bn of debt, with shares once worth nearly £12 now trading at 70p, but it still commands public loyalty, has more than 50 years of its licence to run, and has realised a century's worth of engineering dreams in bringing London closer to Paris than Edinburgh.

What makes commercial suicide an option is the company's previous pronouncements. In 1987, Eurotunnel predicted it would be profitable in 1994. In 1990, it said it would be making money by 1997; three years later, the company told its shareholders and debtors that it was only eight years away from going into the black, Last year it lost £685m. Though it is a creature born

of a desire to reach the future, the lesson for the Channel Tunnel lies in the past. Twenty years ago, the breadth of another crossing, that of the Atlantic, was forever altered by a highprofile, high-tech Anglo-French collaboration - Concorde.

Drop below the clouds obscuring history, and you will remember that Concorde was a white albatross that no airline, not even the French and British flag carriers, wanted; a project that was almost shot down seven times by successive gov-

esterday's announce- ernments in the Seventies, it cost taxnavers in two countries £1.2bn. Now it is known not as a commercial disaster, but as a

triumph of technology. lt is the only commercial airliner that, flying east to west, can overtake time, and it does not rust because its soundbooming speed vaporises water on its surface. British Airways even has the chutzpah to say it is making money from its fleet of sleek, supersonic jets. This is slightly disingenuous, as it received seven planes free thanks to the largesse of the public purse.

When it came to building the Channel Tunnel, the invisible band of the market had slapped governments so hard that pouring taxpayers' cash into a statefunded grand projet was not considered. Instead, the cannier administrations ensured that the price of progress was paid for by the private sector. Entrepreneurial flair bored the 30km concrete tube through 10m of chalk under La Manche; private capital costed the risks. Now big business is praying it has not got its numbers wrong. Again.

But the moneylenders' loss is the public's gain. The Tunnel has been the greatest commercial disaster of the 20th century. Imagine the outcry if Eurotunnel had been kept going with cash from the state, until it could be handed over to the private sector who then used it | fill in the coupon - no postage required to: Wallguard Manchester M16 BHB. as a sparkling loss leader for a privileged few. Instead, after years of receiving lectures from business about the inefficient. bloated public sector, it is worth noting that the market, in Eurotunnel's case, has proved as

inept as the state.

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# business & city BUSINESS & CITY DEPUTY EDITOR: MICHAEL HARRISON

**US** banks snap up quarter of Tunnel debt

Eurotunnel's hopes of survival improved markedly yesterday after it emerged that a handful of big US banks now control nearly £2bn of the £9bn in debt owed by the Channel Tunnel operator.

The prospectus for Eurotunnel's financial reconstruction, due to be sent to shareholders and banks in the next few days, shows American banks, led by the New York investment bank Lazard Frères, have acquired 24 per cent of the debt, mainly from small Japanese banks.

This increases the likelihood of the complex restructuring being approved by the banking syndicate when it votes on the deal in the autumn. Approval is also needed from Eurotunnel's 720,000 shareholders at an extraordinary meeting scheduled in Paris on 10 July.

The restructuring will see the banks emerge with a stake of at least 45 per cent in Eurotunnel by swopping £4.7bn of their debt for shares and other forms of paper. Eurotunnel executives had feared being held to ransom by a minority of rene-gade banks since the restructuring needs the support of 100 per cent of the syndicate.

This is still possible but it is less likely following the changes in the banking syndicate. The num-ber of banks has fallen from 225 to 174 and the share of the £3.7bn in junior debt owed to Japanese banks has fallen from 19 to 8 per cent.

The debt is thought to have changed hands at about 40-45 per cent of its face value during a six-week period starting at the end of March. A fifth of Eurotunnel's debt is now owned by just four US banks. The biggest of these is Lazards, which controls 8.7 per cent of the debt with a face value of £757m, followed by Bankers Trust, Merrill Lynch and Bank of America. The prospectus forecasts that

in 2005 and start paying divi-dends in 2006 provided more optimistic traffic assumptions prove accurate and the high-speed Channel Tunnel rail link opens on time in 2003.

If revenues are lower, interest rates higher than forecast, the railways perform more poorly and the ferry operators remove less capacity, then Eurotunnel says it will take until 2010 to start paying dividends.

The restructuring needs to be approved by two-thirds of French investors and three-quarters of British shareholders in July. For the meeting to go ahead, share-holders speaking for at least 25 per cent of Eurotunnel's equity must

attend or have sent in proxies.

Patrick Ponsolle, Eurotunnel's executive chairman, told an analysts' meeting in London yesterday that if the restructuring was not approved then insolvency procedures would probably have to start in Britain and

The prospectus shows that the financial restructuring will cost Eurotunnel £52m in fees and expenses. This is made up of £25m in bank fees and £27m in advisory fees and Eurotunnel's own costs. Its main financial adviser Dresdner Kleinwort Benson.

The prospectus also discloses that Eurotunnel's directors will be eligible for medium-term bonuses worth 50 per cent of their salaries if the company meets certain targets on operating profits. This is in addition to 30 per cent annual bonuses already payable. Mr Ponsolle receives a salary of Fr2m while his British counterpart Robert Malpas gets £160,000.

Eurotunnel has produced a range of forecasts depending on traffic levels and whether its concession is extended to 99 years. With an extension, the upper case projects pre-tax profits of £110m in 2005. Without one. the lower projection forecasts a loss of £31m in 2005.



Cash queue: More than 10,000 people lined up to collect either refund cheques or, for a lucky few, share certificates

**Stephen Vines** Hong Kong

Beijing Enterprises, the most oversubscribed new issue to come to the Hong Kong market, fulfilled expectations by making its debut yesterday with

a trebling of its issue price.
It also topped the list of most actively traded stocks with 2.57 billion shares changing hands during the day. More than 10,000 people joined a monster queue to collect refund cheques for unsuccessful applicants, and share certificates for those lucky enough to grab a slice of the action.

Speaking at the launch on the floor of the Stock Exchange, Beijing Enterprises chairman,

# **Beijing Enterprises** shares treble in price

know expectations are great and we are feeling the pressure to make the company perform and meet these expectations."

At current levels the shares are rated at more than 60 times forecast profits, compared with a market average of some 16 times. This implies a Herculean task for Mr Hu and his colleagues, who preside over a hotchpotch of investments at least 700,000 shares to secure

mayor of Peking, said: "We burger bar franchises to interests in China's largest brewery and the administration of ticket sales for the Great Wall.

Many of Beijing Enterprises' investors took their profits but Li Ka-Shing, Hong Kong's most influential investor, said his company, Cheung Kong Holdings, planned "to keep this investment for a very, very long time". Investors had to bid for

It is hard to estimate how much Beijing Enterprises profited from overnight interest on cheques cashed in following the frenzied subscription rush which drew in HK\$238.8bn (£18.9bn) as the issue was oversubscribed 1,276 times. One source connected with the issue

said the interest earnings had totalled over £60m. The enthusiasm for Beijing Enterprises, a so-called "red

members set for payouts of £1,400

ScotAm

Nic Cicutti Personal Finance Editor

About 1.1 million members of Scottish Amicable, the mutual life company, look set to receive payments averaging more than £1,400 after the firm was taken over by Prudential, the UK's largest insurer, it was revealed

The payments will be made in cash or added as bonuses to members' policies. In addition, the company said terminal bonuses averaging a further £470 each would be added to policies when they matured.

The proposal, hammered out in discussions with Prudential, involves payments totalling f1.6bn, which includes distributing the assets of ScotAm's with-profits fund to policyholders. ScotAm said details of the likely payouts would be mailed to members in the coming week. Policyholders will vote on the deal at a special meeting on Friday 27 June.

strong fails

Sandy Stewart, chairman of ScotAm, said: "Members now have the opportunity to vote for a package which will provide ad-ditional financial security and the prospect of improved future investments returns leading to

enhanced payouts.
"With-profits policyholders
will also receive an immediate cash lump sum as compensation for the loss of membership and substantial additional bonuses on their lump sums.

ScotAm's announcement orings to an end months of speculation over the scale of likely payouts in the wake of its aceptance of Prudential's bid for the company. Prudential's intervention followed the decision by the ScotAm board in January to propose a complicated two-stage flotation process under which members would have received a one-off payment worth £75m plus a further bonus of up to £450m after three or four years.

However, the proposals sparked widespread unease after it was revealed in the Independent that key members of the board had also allotted themselves a maximum of up to £14.4m in cash and shares if they were able to grow the company significantly over those years.

ScotAm's proposals triggered a rival £1.4bn bid for the firm by Abbey National, only for the bank to be outbid by Prudential at an auction which included AMP, the Australian insurer.

The present proposals include a minimum cash payment of £250 to all eligible policyholders. In addition, further payments will be made depending on the number of years a policy has been held for and its sum assured.

For example, a 25-year endowment started in 1987 to meet a £50,000 mortgage, with a sum assured of £17,500, would trigger a automatic cash payment of £250 plus a further payment of £420 to make £670 in total. In addition, an extra £1,100 would be attached to the policy as a special bonus and a terminal bonus added at maturity.

The scale of the payouts rests on the fact that Prudential is closing down the ScotAm life fund, ensuring policyholders get the benefits.

Gavin Stewart, general manager at ScotAm, said: "This is a very good deal for policy-holders. They are doing very much better because of the particular way the deal is structured, unlike previous life company takeovers."

#### 1993, quickly gave way to doubt and then disillusion. ranging from McDonald's ham- an allocation of some 2,000. Eurotunnel will break into profit Comment, page 25 Hu Zhaugang, who is also a vice chip" counter, reflects the belief Utilities: United criticises Offer for underestimating scale of electricity roll-out as two water companies announce rise in profits

# RECs will not meet South West pays advisers £5.2m competition deadline

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

Most electricity companies would not meet the April 1998 target date to start the roll-out domestic competition, Professor Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator, admitted for the first time yesterday.

The progress report by the electricity watchdog, Offer, concluded that just three of the 12 regional electricity companies (RECs) would meet the deadline, confirming what had become an open secret in the industry. They are Eastern, Seeboard and Yorkshire, along with the Electricity Pool, the wholesale power market. The remaining companies, including the two Scottish power groups. will be ready by July with the delays: "That's not what we are possible exception of Southern Electric which could be even further behind. Offer said there could be financial penalties for

Professor Littlechild defended the delay, arguing it was a considerable improvement

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New York \*

FTSE All-Share 2220.52

Hong Kong 14416.57

The general impression was that a much longer delay was envisaged. To keep it within a few months I think it is a really significant achievement given the magnitude of the task.

But the largest REC, Eastern. claimed full competition could slip to 1999. Offer's aim is to introduce choice to 26 million households by postcode area in a phased process lasting six months. John Devaney, Eastern's executive chairman, said: "It could take two years for the whole. You will find some companies don't make this timetable. They're in difficulties but no one wants to own up to how

long it will really take."
Professor Littlechild insisted he did not foresee any further expecting at the moment. They don't foresee this on the basis of what they say they can do." Several RECs also renewed

their criticism of Offer's project management. Brian Staples, chief executive of United Utilities, which owns Norweb, said on previous industry rumours of Professor Littlechild "had nev-

STOCK MARKETS

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Source: FT Information

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a 12-month postponement: er wanted to stand up and grip "The general impression was it". Mr Devaney said Offer had underestimated the scale of

> A new dispute with Offer was looming last night over how much of the development costs would be passed on to customers. Mr Staples stood by his estimate that competition would cost the industry £1bn. against Offer's estimate last week that up to £383m could be included in customer bills.

Mr Devanev said costs were still "a huge issue," estimating competition would cost Eastern £50m. Mr Staples added: "Professor Littlechild's estimates are wildly away from reality. I don't think he looks at these

things in a pristine manner."
United Utilities yesterday revealed a 14 per cent increase in annual pre-tax profits before exceptional write-offs to £444m and raised its dividend by 13.9 per cent to 37.2p. Sir Desmond Pitcher, United's chairman, said he "couldn't even contemplate" a legal challenge to the windfall utility tax until he saw the detailed legislation.

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Chris Godsmark

City lawyers and advisers pock-eted £5.2m from South West Water last year working on the group's response to the Monopolies & Mergers Commission investigation into two hostile takeover approaches.

The bid costs came on top of £700,000 spent the previous year, bringing the total to almost £6m, most of which was shared between solicitors Allen & Overy and other merchant bankers and advisers. The bids. £15 customer rebate, which cost from neighbouring Wessex Wa- the company £10m.

were ultimately blocked by the government. Ken Hill, South West's finance director, insisted the costs were "towards the bottom end" of other MMC investigations.

ter and Severn Trent Water.

South West yesterday joined in the wave of generous utility company dividend hikes, raising its payout to investors by 20.3 per cent to 36.7p. Pre-tax profits were up 21.5 per cent to £132.6m. Mr Hill said the dividend, costing £47.4m. had to be set against a

implement the tax. "We just have to recognise it's likely to happen. We are not going to be at the forefront of any legal challenge. We are not going to be out there doing the same things as British Telecom bave been doing," referring to BT's recent outburst threatening the possibility of court action.

The group sounded a less combative note on opposition to

the windfall tax. Ken Harvey,

the chairman, recognised the

Government had a mandate to

However Mr Hill warned that any moves to toughen leak- to 698.5p.

tomer pipes.
Asked about the possibility of a mandatory free leakage repair service for customer pipes, a service already offered volun-

Mr Hill said: "We might do it voluntarily, but it would be logged in the next price review." The share price rose by 3.5p

surances from the DTI that they

The comments came as Mid

Kent announced a 12 per cent

rise in annual profits to £13.8m

and signalled its intention to

will be in place," he said.

that companies with strong

political connections are likely

to flourish when Hong Kong returns to Chinese rule in July.

The newly listed company, in which Peking's local govern-

ment holds an indirect 69 per

cent stake, is seen as a premier

example of a political deal maker which will leverage its

connections to draw in the kind

of business prospects denied to

Mr Hu was quick to place a

political interpretation on the

success of his company's listing.

It reflects people's confidence

in Hong Kong after the hand-

chip bonanza, which erupted in

age targets would have to be in-cluded in the next price review

by the regulator, Around 21 per

cent of South West's water

leaks from company pipes, with

a further 6 per cent from cus-

However, the last great red

over," he said.

#### Mid Kent considers bid for Folkestone

CURRENCIES

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expectedly signalled its interest in buying neighbouring Folkestone and Dover Water Services. owned by one of the two French utility giants which were blocked from buying the Maidstonebased group earlier this year after a lengthy Monopolies & gation, writes Chris Godsmark.

Gcoff Baldwin, chief executive of the Mid Kent Holdings parent company, said he had raised the possibility of a bid for Folkestone and Dover with

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erale des Eaux, the utility conglomerate which owns 24 per cent of Mid Kent's shares. Saur. the other French group which owns South East Water, sold its 20 per cent stake in Mid Kent after the proposed joint bid was blocked by Ian Lang, former President of the Board of Trade. "It's something we've talked

about with General Utilities. But we are not going aggres-sively into battle," said Mr Baldwin. He said it would be a good way for General Utilities

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Mid Kent Water vesterday un- General Utilities, part of Gen- to realise the value of its investment in Mid Kent, should it decide to sell its shares. Mid Kent defended the

£2.4m cost of the MMC process, much of which had gone to pay its lawyers, Norton Rose, But Mr Baldwin was concerned that the DTI had still not imposed formal undertakings on the two groups to prevent further bid approaches.

"We were in the pending tray when John Major called the election. The undertakings need reconfirming. I want as-

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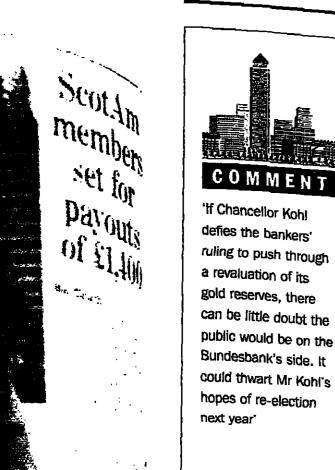
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Of Brent S



# Time to think the unthinkable on the euro

t is one of life's commonplaces that the financial markets thrive on uncertainty. but the latest setback to European Monetary Union shows that it is just not true. What traders like is just enough uncertainty to be able to pull slightly away from the herd. What they have got, with the bust-up between the Bundesbank and the German government is a harden again. ment, is a hesitant scattering in all directions.

It has always been impossible to predict how the grand European project would turn out. It was as if a thick veil of mist hung between now and 1 January 1999. Investors have tended not to think the unthinkable and restricted their speculation to who would be in, who out.

With the German row, the veil is still in place, but the uncertainties are bigger. Will it happen at all? Will it be delayed? Will it go ahead with Uncle Tom Cobbleigh - Italy, that is - and all? Beyond that, how big a political crisis at home do the German and French governments now face? With questions like this unanswered and unanswerable no wonder everybody has been piling into the Swiss franc.

According to David Marsh, the Robert Fleming European analyst with extensive knowledge of the Bundesbank, this is the most serious disagreement between the cen-tral bank and the government since the Korean war.

If Chancellor Kohl defies the bankers' ruling to push through a revaluation of its gold

would be on the Bundesbank's side. It could thwart Mr Kohl's hopes of re-election next year. Meanwhile, this weekend will bring the out-

come of the French elections. President Chirac's gamble of counting on a victory to give him a clear run up to the start of the single currency has failed.

The two events of this week combined must have increased the probability that EMU will not happen substantially. This is bad news for Italian and Spanish bonds, which are likely to reverse their convergence towards German yields. It might well be good for German bonds if the danger of substituting a weaker curo for the mark has receded. It is also likely to boost the pound and gilts to the extent that they are seen as a haven from turbulence as opposed to a portfolio alternative to a weak euro.

The markets made some of these connections yesterday, but reaction was surprisingly muted. Thinking the unthinkable takes a bit of getting used to.

#### The hole truth and nothing but?

Furotunnel has turned the humble prospectus into such a work of fiction that shareholders could be forgiven for not believing a single word contained in its latest offering. Even the admission that Eurotunnel units reserves, there can be little doubt the public of Anglo-French understatement.

In 1987, when the tunnel was still little more than a twinkle in Sir Alastair Morton's eye and a small bore hole in Shakespeare Cliff, shareholders were promised a dividend in 1993. By 1990 the date of the first payout had slipped to 1998, by 1994 it had moved further out to 2003 (largely on account of the tunnel not being open). Now shareholders are being promised a dividend in 2006 if all goes well but more likely 2010 if the highspeed rail link encounters the same fate as

the tunnel.

In reality, the projections are largely meaningless for the vast bulk of the company's 720,000 shareholders. Inflation will have long since caten up any capital gain that a shareholder who boarded in 1987 might have hoped to realise. The only purpose in hanging onto the stock is for the free travel perks. Now they face a choice between savage dilution on the one hand and oblivion on the other. The prospectus that will start landing on doormats in the next few days is novel in that Eurorunnel is not proposing to raise any new money but rather hand out new shares to its bankers in return for cancellation of debt.

Eurotunnel needs to persuade the equity markets that its latest projections are not only plausible but probable for two reasons. First, f existing shareholders vote down the restructuring then Eurotunnel will go into insolvency. Second, if Eurotunnel's share price fails to recover then the warrants it is about to issue will remain worthless. Unless they are exercised then Eurotunnel is consigned to handing over ownership of the project to the | sor Stephen Littlechild, who has been prebanks anyway at just the point when the project starts to turn from albatross around neck to licence to print money.

There is one other snag. The restructuring also needs the support of 100 per cent of Eurotunnel's banks to succeed. Previous financial rescues - such as those of News Corp and GPA - show that even tiny banks can punch way beyond their weight in such circumstances. By clearing out 51 of the stragglers and bringing in a handful of big US banks, the agent banks, led by NatWest and the Midland here have made it less likely that Eurotunnel will be held to ransom.

The only other party that needs to be brought on board are the British and French governments, which are being asked to extend Eurotunnel's concession to 99 years. Provided that is forthcoming, the betting is that shareholders will support the deal. The biggest obstacle then becomes investor apathy. A quarter of shareholders need to show up in Paris in July to get the deal waved through. With 563,000 French shareholders controlling 54 per cent of the stock, that may prove the most difficult task of all.

#### The professor's power failure

At last the "Alice In Wonderland" approach of the previous government to electricity competition has come to an end. Profes-

siding over the Mad Hatter's Tea Party that passes for the 1998 project has conceded what has been obvious for a long time. Not all of the 12 regional electricity companies will be ready for domestic competition next April.

He is trying to embarrass them into action by naming the guilty parties (step forward Southern Electric) Yet even this public shaming may not do the trick. The nurdles to come remain daunting. An old adage in the computer industry is that any project designed to last more than six months will probably never happen at all and will cost tens of millions in the process. Professor Littlechild says that companies still have to take delivery of systems, put them into operation, integrate them with other RECs systems and carry out final testing. Despite all this the Prof stands by the new target of getting all the RECs, with the possible exception of Southern, at least partially on board by July 1998, just three

He may be right, but the RECs themselves clearly do not believe this. In fact, so sceptical is John Devaney, Eastern's executive chairman, that he reckons it will be late 1999 before the process is complete.

Worse still, the RECs are preparing for the mother of all arguments over how much of the cost they can load into customer bills. If they get their way, and pass up to £900m on to customers, it would almost certainly wipe out any savings from competition.

# Strong pound fails to dent trade figures

**Diane Coyle Economics Editor** 

There was no sign of damage from the strong pound in new figures for trade in March and April. Britain's deficits with non-EU countries last month and the whole world the previous mouth both shrank unexpectedly.

Export volumes fell in March, although non-EU sales volumes picked up sharply again in April. But import volumes fell by more before they too rebounded. In addition import prices have fallen faster than export prices.

The net result was a decline of £100m in the global trade deficit to £671m in March. Trade with EU countries accounted for the improvement. the UK's shortfall dwindling to

a mere £20m. The non-EU deficit rose in March but shrank from £651m to £335m in April.

The Office for National Statistics said the trend in both import and export volumes was flat, Dharshini David, an econ-

omist at HSBC Markets, said there were few clear signs that the strength of sterling was damaging the trade position

Most economists still expect the damage to show up off until April when it surged later this year, following survey evidence indicating declining export orders. The figures showed a diver-

gence between Britain's trade with the EU countries and with the rest of the world. The pace of growth in exports to Europe has declined, with their underlying growth down to 1.5 per cent in the year to March, in line with the fact that the pound has risen more al Bank of Scotland. against European currencies. Exports to the rest of the

world have in fact maintained a healthy pace. They grew by successive monthly fall, and oil 13 per cent in underlying terms in the year to April.
"Buoyant non-EU exports

are unlikely to offset fully the down-trend in EU exports in coming months," said Richard

lley at Hoare Govett. More surprisingly, growth in import volumes, excluding oil surprisingly favourable deficits.

Trade volumes

and erratic items, from the EU has also slowed sharply despite the exchange rate move and the buoyant state of the economy. Likewise, growth in non-EU import volumes has fallen The surplus on trade in oil improved from £443m in February to £604m in March. However, this might go into reverse in the next set of trade figures. Falling oil prices and warmer weather slashed Britain's oil and gas revenues by nearly 7 per cent last month to their lowest level since last August, according to the Roy-

Arnault assault: LVMH chief may take on debt to succeed

## Arnault tells agm of plan to scupper merger

City Correspondent

Bernard Arnault, the chairman of the LVMH luxury goods group, continued his assault on the proposed £24bn merger between Guinness and Grand Metropolitan yesterday at the company's annual meet-ing in Paris. He told shareholders that LVMH would take on debt to fund his plans to buy Guinness' 34 per cent stake in the Moët Hennessy spirits busi-ness as well as the British company's share of the 17 joint ventures between the two groups. He did not put a price on the deal though analysts

said they could cost up to £1bn. Mr Arnault also ruled out any sale by LVMH of its drinks business or the distribution joint ventures in which Guinness has long expressed an interest. "The wines and spirits at the heart of Moët Hennessy are a funda-mental part of LVMH's strategy and a disposal is completely ruled out," he said.

Mr Arnault's comments

followed his broadside on Wednesday when he said the Guinness-GrandMet merger represented a change of control which, under the terms of agreements signed in 1994. would trigger clauses that would allow LVMH to buy out the Guinness stakes at a discountplain the merger to workers. ed price. This would give LVMH control of Guinness brands in key markets for "at

Mr Arnault assured shareholders that the purchase of the Guinness stakes would not affect the company's results. "This ... would have a positive impact on LVMH's accounts," he said.

least 10 years".

Mr Arnault, who was the only member of the Guinness board to vote against the Grand Met deal said: "If we oppose this plan, that is because it would lead to the creation of a conglomerate grouping wines, spirits, fast food and canned foods without any coherence among them. We don't see any increase in shareholder value

from this operation."

Quilter fined by the SFA

chairman, stood down as a director of LVMH yesterday. This had been agreed between Mr Greener and Mr Arnault in March. However, he failed to attend the LVMH meeting vesterday, preferring to undertake a tour of Scotland to ex-

His "no show" returned in kind Mr Arnault's action earlier this month when he chose not to attend the Guinness agm due to a conflicting engagement. Mr Arnault told shareholders that Mr Greener had written to him a week earlier to say he would not be attending. Guinness says it has no plans to meet Mr Arnault to discuss the legality of the Frenchman's plans, likely to be the subject of legal dispute. Separately, the European

Competition Commissioner Karel Van Miert hinted that the merger might face an uphill struggle in Brussels. "It is well known. I think, what the problems are, the competition concerns which have been identified." He said there would Tony Greener, the Guinness be a hearing in a few weeks.

# BAe to stop production of Jetstream aircraft

Chris Godsmark

British Aerospace blamed intense international competition yesterday for its decision to end production of the long-running letstream regional aircraft at Prestwick in Scotland with the

loss of almost 400 jobs. The move had been expected after Sir Richard Evans, BAe's chief executive, put the future of the revised Jetstream J41 under review because of overcapacity in the regional plane market. The closure will involve 380 job cuts at Prestwick, leaving around 1,000 workers involved in work on larger re-gional jets and the Nimrod

marine patrol plane. A BAe spokesman said the cuts would involve a mixture of voluntary and compulsory redundancies. A further 200 staff would be moved from Jetstream production to other work.

The company said cost of the reorganisation would be £220m. BAe said had it been done in 1995 it would have produced improvements of £40m a year. The group is thought to have lost around £600m building the plane over the past five years. The commercial aircraft di-

vision has long been the principal drain on BAe's cash reserves, losing £78m in 1996 and £118m in 1995.

The decision was greeted with dismay by Brian Donohoe, the Labour MP for Cunninghame South, who asked the Department of Trade and Industry to look at unfair subsidies for regional jets made in other countries. The move is another blow for Prestwick, with complete closure of the site still an option according to BAe in March. Jetstream production capacity at the site had been slashed from

on the order book. Separately yesterday there was a jobs boost for Scotland, with news that British Telecom was to build a customer support centre employing 200 staff.

20 aircraft to 10, with 12 currently

#### The Securities and Futures Authority (SFA) has fined the Quilter

& Co stockbroking firm £65,000 for failings in its dividends department and back office. It has reprimanded the firm, which has agreed to pay its costs of £25,000, for the internal control and compliance failings. The watchdog said that during March 1995. a probationary employee "committed offences of false accounting which resulted in a loss to the firm of approximately £38,000° Quilter discovered the offences and notified the SFA in November 1995. The SFA said that it had taken into account that during much of the period Quilter had suffered severe operational difficulties as a result of bomb damage to its premises in April 1992

IN BRIEF

#### Heron invests £100m in City property

Gerald Ronson is to develop two key sites in the City of London at a cost of £100m. Heron International, his privately owned company, has acquired sites at Ludgate Circus and Holborn and will build a combined total of 190,000 square feet of office space by 1999. Heron has already announced plans to redevelop sites in London's Tottenham Court Road and The Strand this year. The company has announced a £500m development programme over the last six months, including sites in Paris, Madrid and Barcelona.

#### SIB launches hunt for pensions victims

The Securities and Investments Board, the City's top regulator. announced it was mounting a £400,000 advertising campaign aimed at persuading potential victims of the pensions mis-selling scandal to come forward and ask for a review of their personal pensions. The SIB's campaign, under the banner "Have You Lost Out on Your Pension", comes after figures showing 40 per cent of people eligible for a review have not replied to initial letters from their pension providers. Helen Liddell, the economic minister to the Treasury, said last night she was "delighted" by the campaign.

#### **Profits recover at Berisford**

Berisford, the Magnet kitchens group which issued a profits warning late last year and then saw a takeover approach disappear, has reported improved profits in the six months to 29 March. Underlying profits jumped 14 per cent to £14.5m. Like-for-like sales at Magnet are 6 per cent ahead of the same eight week period last year. The interim dividend was increased by a third to 2p.

#### Further fall in Japanese output

Industrial output in Japan in April fell 0.4 per cent from March according to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry. In March output fell 0.3 per cent from the previous month, the ministry said. For May the ministry forecasts industrial output will rise 2.7 per cent from April.

#### Anglo sells Coalite for £24m

Thomas Potts, the printing group in which Nigel Wray has a 22 per cent stake, is buying smokeless fuels manufacturer Coalite Products from Anglo United for £24.3m. It will fund the deal through a £27m placing and open offer and change of the name of the enlarged group to Coalite. The company also plans to move from the Alternative Investment Market to the Official List.

#### Regulation reform in Japan

Japan's parliament has moved a step closer to stripping the Finance Ministry of its power to regulate the beleaguered financial industry with the approval by the lower house of legislation to create an independent agency to inspect and supervise financial institutions. The agency will be created next year.

# M&G disappoints investors

Sameena Ahmad

M&G's decision to hold its interim dividend was seen as a veiled profits warning by the market vesterday, which market vesterday, which marked down the fund manager's shares by 4 per cent to £12.82p. Analysis also downgraded full-year forecasts. One, who did not want to be

named, cut his estimate by 10 dividend is 16p.

ner cent from £76m to £68m. It Michael McLintock, managper cent from £76m to £68m. "It is ironic given M&G's aggressive stance on dividend growth that they have decided to maintain their numbers. It sends out the wrong signals," he said

been adversely affected by the underperformance of its UK equity trusts, though international. fixed interest and institutional funds all showed above average performance. Pre-tax profits grew 6 per cent to £33.2m with earnings per share up 6 per cent to 30.4p. The

ing director, said that the profits increase was modest and compared with an average 13 per cent rise in the FTSE All share index: He added: "Below aver-

M&G said that its results for the six months to 31 March, had from a number of our UK funds affected new business levels and depressed the level of both annual and initial fee income." Mr McLintock said that marketing and commissions ex-

It said oil production was

down by 2.5 per cent to 2.51

million barrels a day, the fifth

prices fell from \$19.17 to

\$17.71 a barrel, 15 per cent be low last April's levels.

the big jump in both imports

and exports recorded in April's

figures. Most were cautious

about reading anything into the

However, economic fore-

casts for growth this year have

all factored in a worsening

trade position counteracting

the surging domestic economy.
"If sterling's impact is turn-

ing out to be more moderate

than our forecasts imply, the

major offset we expect to

booming domestic demand

this year may be slipping away," said Adam Cole, UK

The combination of helpful

trade figures and the row be-

tween the Bundesbank and

German government took the

pound up vesterday.
It ended slightly higher at

economist at James Capel.

Some City analysts queried

penditure had risen 34 per cent to £24m, mainly reflecting the cost of buying the "no initial charge" business. The group also spent £2m on television advertising to generate wider brand awareness. However, he said that costs were under "firm control", with administration expenses 11 per cent lower than the previous period. Sales of UK group such as Halifax."

unit trusts and PEPs fell 44 per cent to £312m. Analysts said the second-half

figures would be blighted by £5m of costs related to sorting out the millennium bug and re-vamping old-fashioned brands. They said new management

was expected to improve M&G's performance, but it was still a clear bid target. One said: "There are plenty of big banks and insurance companies out there who need a fund management arm. M&G won't get into bed with any old foreigner, but they might give themselves up to a

Family to pocket Ir£40m as Ryanair floats

The company has 130 otation price. ground-handling staff of whom James Osborne, a director of 73 are baggage-handlers. A

#### Cathy Newman and David Usborne

yesterday sparked intense speculation that it would soon hit the acquisition trail after it sold half its stake in Time Warner for The sale of 30 million Time

Warner shares, which was handied by Merrill Lynch, was one of the largest-ever single sales of stock. A spokesman for Seagram said the cash would be share repurchases.

terpreted the statement as a signal that Seagram was looking to acquire. It is possible the company may try to buy out Viacom's 50 per cent share of USA Network, the cable television outfit currently split between

which consists of the USA Network, a popular cable channel, as well as the much smaller Sci-Fi channel - would give Seagram the opportunity to have its and Guinness.

#### own television outlet tied to its film empire, Universal Studios. The beverage giant picked an

for 120 days, but it is thought

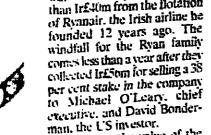
these may also be disposed.

Seagram, the Canadian drinks opportune moment to sell the stock, which reached a record high of \$49.13 just over a week ago. Seagram is to retain 26.8 million Time Warner shares

> After announcing the sale, Seagram's president, Edgar Bronfman Jr., said: "Given the recent price improvement in Time Warner stock, we believe this was an appropriate time to reduce the size of our holdings." Time Warner will not be un-

duly perturbed by the slow exit of Seagram, which is a strong rival in the entertainment industry. The company, headed by Gerald Levin, will also welcome the fact that the stock is being sold to institutional investors rather than to any single buyer with potential takeover ambitions.

Yesterday's events revived rumours that Seagram may try to expand its drinks portfolio in response to the planned merger between Grand Metropelitan



family's remaining stake, which was 18 times oversubscribed.

Tony Ryan and his three sons has been reduced from 62 per will collectively pocket more cent to 35 per cent by the flotathan Ir£40m from the flotation tion, looks set to soar. The of Ryanair, the Irish airline he price for the shares on offer in the flotation on the Irish Stock Exchange and on Nasdaq in the US was set yesterday right at the top end of the range, at 195p. However, anticipating a scram-ble when official dealings begin today, dealers were vesterday quoting a Grey Market price of Moreover, the value of the 300p. The flotation share offer

values the company at Ir£477m compared with the lr£310m value out on the company by the flotation price.

success of the flotation was "a low-fares arrine?.

The company also announced that it had made progress in averting a potentially the company".

The Grey Market price damaging all-out strike planned for next Tuesday by groundhandling staff.

Ryanair, claimed that the spokesman for the company said vesterday that 52 out of the significant step in establishing 73 baggage-handlers had signed Ryanair as Europe's leading a notice to the effect that they wished to suspend proposed industrial action and to resolve any issues of concern direct with

## Seagram sells \$1.4bn stake

and entertainment company, \$1.39bn (£850m).

used for "corporate purposes", including repayment of debt and However, several analysis in-

Viacom and Seagram. Purchasing USA Network -

# Stakis to focus on four-star market after hotel sell-off

City Correspondent

group which bought the Metropole hotels from Lonrho last November, is to sell eight of its portfolio as it moves to concentrate solely on the four-star sector. Stakis plans to use the proceeds to invest in all three of its operations - hotels, casinos and its new health and leisure division.

eight three-star hotels were profitable they did not fit the strategy of concentrating on four-star, full-service hotels. The hotels being sold are in Corby, Falkirk, Glasgow Airport. Leeds. London Harewood, Nottingham, Paisley and Perth. In total, they have nearly 800 bedrooms, leaving the group with around 7,000.

£35m-£40m from the sale, a figure analysts regarded as conservative. Andrew Holland, Stakis, the hotel and leisure an analyst at Kleinwort Berson, said the likely buyers would include Jarvis, the hotels group which floated last year but has seen its shares perform poorly. Regal Hotels might be ruled out following its recent £64.5m purchase of 13 three-star hotels from Whitbread.

Mr Holland said the planned sale was logical. "If and when David Michels, chief execu- the next hotels downturn tive, said that although the comes, it is the three-star hotels that would probably suffer most. You need to be top end or in budget hotels."

Richard Cole-Hamilton, chairman of Stakis, said: "The major acquisition of Metropole has been completed, a comprehensive transformation is under way within the casino division and the potential of health and leisure is beginning Stakis said it hoped to realise to be tapped."

He was speaking as Stakis re-ported an 86 per cent rise in half-year pre-tax profits to £22.2m. The five Metropole hotels contributed £11m in their 19 weeks under Stakis ownership. Room rates in Metropoles improved from £63.80 to £70.28 and occupancy was up from 60.6 to 64.9 per cent.

Profits from existing Stakis hotels, stripping out the Metropole deal, were more than 20 per cent ahead at £20.7m. asino profits fell from £5m to £3.8m largely due to the sale of the Barracuda club in London. On a like-for-like hasis, casino profits were £1.2m ahead. The Living Well health and

leisure business, which was acquired last May, contributed profits of £600,000 from its seven clubs. Group sales were £141m

compared with £95.8m in 1995/96. Stakis shares closed 2p higher at 990.

## **Community Hospitals** sells 14 homes to Bupa

**Clifford German** 

Community Hospitals Group yesterday agreed to sell 14 of its 16 nursing homes to a subsidiary of Bupa for £34m, of which £28.6m is in cash. The balance represents BES investment

funds which Bupa is assuming. The homes were put up for sale by tender in February, marking a change of policy in the group which will now con-centrate on its 10 private hospitals around the country. One of the company's two remaining homes will be sold separately and the other will be retained as part of an integrated

made a £2.8m operating profit on a turnover of £10.5m in the year to the end of last June. The City thinks Community Hospitals achieved a good price for the businesses and the shares rose 3.5p to 375p, against

the market trend yesterday. Bupa is paying around £44.000 per bed and at least £4m more than the net asset value of the division. Analysts had expected the company to realise around £30m from the disposal. Alan Dexter, chairman of

Community Hospitals, said yesterday: "We are delighted to have been able to secure an exit from the nursing home business so speedily and at a price that reflects our expectations. This private hospital beds.

disposal creates the opportunity for us actively to pursue the development of our more profitable hospitals business, where we are confident that the prospects are excellent."

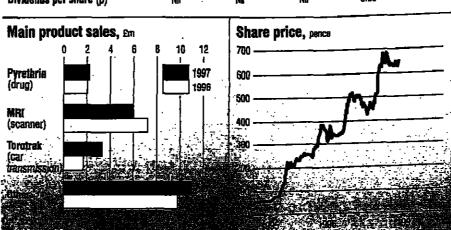
The cash will be used initially to repay debt, which could save the group around £2.7m in interest charges, and will have a modest diluting effect on earn-ings. However, the company said that the impact on the cur-

rent year would be negligible. The cash will be used to buy more small private hospitals. But analysts noted that insurance firms are exerting heavy pressure on contract prices which reflect

# Easy water profits set to dry up

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN EDITED BY SAMEENA AHMAD

long-term growth prospects from their core businesses. with Labour poised to clobber them with a windfall tax. But BTG: At a glance Market value: £579m, share price 657.5p Anglian Water still managed to grow its dividend 15 per cent and South West Water 20.3 per Five-year record cent while North West Water, now part of United Utilities, raised its payout to the quoted group by 11 per cent. Pre-tax profits (loss) (£m) Yet as South West Water and United Utilities said yesterday, (3.3) 44 Earnings per share (loss) (8) regulator Ian Byatt and Deputy Dividends per share (p) is likely to mean tough price controls in the next five-year Main product sales, £m Share price, pence regime in 1999. Mr Bvatt is



tively safe businesses to run.

Excluding the £14.8 per cent exceptional profit from the gestions that both areas, insale of South West's 23 per cent ternational and telecoms, are stake in Westcountry Televi-sion, pre-tax profits still rose 69 20 per cent of profits from nonper cent to £8.6m, with sales up regulated businesses by 2000. 31 per cent. The instrumenta- An ambitious target, until they tion operation. ELE, was the point out that it will also include star, with a 164 per cent surge electricity supply. where do-in profits to £3.7m. ELE illusmestic competition is looming.

The conclusion for investors trates the point well. All the exported water, air and soil is disturbing. Clearly the non-ditesting kits are sold "cash up versified firms will see the least front", secured on irrevocable dividend growth. Yet diversification also carries dangers. The Now compare United Utili- days of an easy buck from water ties' approach. Leaving aside shares are coming to a close. the £83m write-off on its

> BTG takes a long-term view

Tho says the City never for carner is telecommunicatakes a long-term tions, where investment rose from £8.1m to £15m, with view? BTG, the

derisory dividend and has little notion when it could hit real profits. Yet the group, set up to encourage the commercialisa-tion of British inventions, has been one of the UK's most spectacular privatisations. Sold to management in 1992 for less a fuel-efficient vehicle transthan £15m and floated at 225p in 1995, the shares soared to almost £27 at one point, boxes. Toyota and Ford have alprompting a five-for-one stock

split last December. The excitement is about the potential of a company brimming with more than 9,000 patented inventions. BTG pans a greater royalty.

through ideas generated by the Of course, there are negathrough ideas generated by the drugs, telecoms and engineerives. Costs of throwing out ing giants, buying some 100 of failed products are conthe 500 inventions it looks at a siderable and BTG needs to year. The group secures the sharpen its focus on fewer patents and licenses the prod- ideas to optimise revenue ucts to partners - for a healthy

half share of any sales. Making money from all this turnover up from £2.2m to technology licensing company, can take years, but with part- decided on valuations, which

gy or drugs company - cash costs are lower, there is less exposure to failure and with a huge num-ber of potential products, BTG can plug revenue gaps when patents expire - notably on the company's Pyrethrin drug next year. Given the heady upside, the market is probably right to think that the shares, ahead 35p to 657.5p, will keep rising.

tions. But BTG does not bear the risks of a normal technolo-

Siebe engineers a leap in profits

ew companies in the UK arc as exposed to the damage being inflicted by strength of sterling as the Siebe engineering group, which draws an astonishing 90 per cent plus of its profits from overseas.

So, even after allowing for some help from acquisitions, yesterday's announcement that profits for the year to 5 April were above the top end of City expectations with a 28 per cent leap to £424m was a creditable performance given the £17m hit from translation to sterling.

The company improved margins significantly with the

profits improvement achieved on a 20 per cent increase in sales, which just crept over £3bn. Organic profit growth was 19.3 per cent, and both sales and profit growth would have been 5 points higher but for the strength of sterling.

Margins in the control systems division improved from 15.8 mission system which does per cent to 17 per cent and from 14.6 per cent to 16.3 per cent in temperature and appliance controls, although industrial equipment division only managed to improve from 11 per cent to 11.3 per cent.

the product, on expectation of Analysts have edged up profit forecasts for the current year to around £480m, which implies 58.9p of earnings compared with last year's 54.1p.

However, the shares, up 100 to 961.5p yesterday, sport an expensive rating of 16.3 times earnings in light of the strong pound, which did not really impact on results until the closing

#### £8.2m. United brushes off sug- has patchy sales growth, pays a ners taking on development ex- depend on complex assump-

INDEPENDENT EXPERIENCES

nsurprisingly, the pri-vatised water compa-

nies are gloomy about

the combination of industry

Prime Minister John Prescott

committed to the kind of one-

off price reductions which

drove British Gas to the

Monopolies & Mergers Com-

mission. So if there is less

opportunity for dividend

growth from regulated busines-ses, where will it come from?

South West and United have

very different answers. South

West's non-regulated activi-

ties - waste management, spe-

cialist contracting and scientific

instrumentation - are impressive earners and simple, rela-

letters of credit.

Bangkok project, United's in-ternational businesses are still

based on front-end investment

to secure long-term earnings. In-ternational profits fell 22 per

cent to £4.6m. Another hoped-

# Fly to Barcelona and stay for two nights

#### debonair

The Independent and Independent on Sunday in association with debonair have arranged a super value short break to Barcelona. From just £143 you can fly to

One of Europe's most cosmopolitan and avant garde cities. Barcelona is the perfect summertime destination. To experience Barcelona at this special discounted price simply call the number printed below or complete the coupon.

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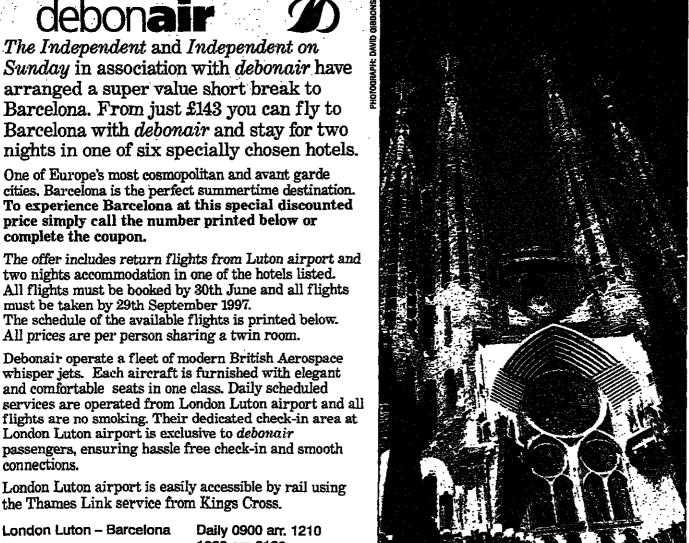
Daily 0900 arr. 1210 1820 arr. 2130 Daily 0815 arr. 0935 1810 arriving 1930

Additional flight on Saturday 1955 arr. 2115 How to Book

Booking could not be easier, simply call Travel Plus -ABTA:E1228, ATOL:3470 - on

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Barcelona's greatest monument, Guadi's Sagrada Familia

Terms and Conditions

All bookings are subject to availability. The listed prices are for travel in June only. For travel during July, August or September there will be a £20 supplement per person. All flights must be booked by 30th June 1997 and all flights taken by 29th September 1997. All prices are per person sharing a twin room. There is a single occupancy room rate which you will be advised upon when booking. All flights are from Luton airport. Prices do not include transfer to and from the airport, or airport tax which currently stands at £6.70. Travel insurance is recommended for all overseas travel and is available from Travel Plus, the booking agents. Passengers are responsible for their own passport(which must be a 10 year passport). Readers should be aware that no changes or amendments are available with this offer. Lost or stolen tickets are non refundable. A full list of terms and conditions is available from Travel Plus, who are responsible for this offer.

#### The city of Barcelona

Fortune smiles upon Barcelona. The heart of Catalonia was blessed with a spectacular setting. The city is sprinkled along the shore of the Mediterranean, and into the folds of mountains which slide gracefully into the sea. This preposterously pleasant setting has been decorated with wit and audacity. Barcelona is unique.

Barcelona is an easy city to explore with many of the major sights within walking distance of each other. Wandering around and soaking up the streetlife, between regular stopovers in bars and cafes is an enjoyable a way of getting to know the city and is the best way to absorb quintessential

At night, Barcelona erupts with an array of nightlife. Waterfront cases stay open until 5am, and a host of designer bars and clubs all combine to provide an exotic night life experience.

The cities Olympic revamp of 1992 has

opened up the city to the sea front and created an impressive and stylish setting

small. However, the upside is

not. If only a handful of BTG's

products make it, the company

could be sitting on a gold

away with conventional gear-

ready licensed the system and,

given its potential, BTG will

spend around half of yester-

day's £25m placing to develop

growth. The group will also be

loss-making for at least the next

two years and analysts are un-

which provides a host of choices for the first time visitor to indulge in some al fresco In stark contrast to Barcelona's modern.

Olympic facilities is the city's greatest monument, Antonio Guadi's Sagrada Familia. Begun over a century ago and yet to be completed, the Cathedral still reaches it's crescendo above the city.

Artistically, Barcelona has many options. Gaudi, Picasso, Dali and Miro all have strong links with the city. The Meseu Picasso, housed within a Medieval Gothic palace, is a testimony to the years Picasso spent in the city amongst Catalonia's avant garde.

The magical mountain of Tibidabo is the peak that presides over Barcelona, protecting the city from the interior. From the summit where a funfair and the Temple of the Sacred Heart jostle for command, you will experience an extraordinary panorama of an exceptional city.

The Hotels Please complete the booking form below and send it to: Hotel Santa Marta - 2 Star - 2 nights

from £143.

Simple, unsophisticated accommodation, but neverthless clean and comfortable and furnished to a respectable standard. Situated near the port of Barcelona in the

Hotel Aragon - Superior ≥ Star-2 nights from £155. A pleasant, clean and comfortable hotel situated in one of the main streets of Barcelona with easy access to any point in

Hotel Roma - 3 Star - 2 nights from £155 A small hotel with traditional character, situated a short metro ride from the historic centre of Barcelona.

Hotel Oriente - 3 Star - 2 nights from £155 A listed building and the city's oldest hotel. Centrally located, the hotel has a large and historically ornate breakfast room.

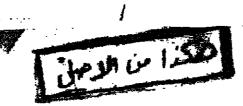
Hotel Rialto - Superior 3 Star from £159.

A lovely traditional hotel with superb location in the historic centre of Barcelona.

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Postcode
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Names of passengers
Date of departure from Luton Airport
Date of return from Barcelona Airport
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How many nights do you wish to stay?
Preferred flight time (out)
Preferred flight time (return)
Credit card no.
Expiry date LilliSignature
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# Heavy trading sends shares in BTR tumbling below 200p

'Like so many others BTR latched onto the strength of the pound to explain in part its

discomfort. But it could not disguise that deepseated problems in

other parts of the sprawling empire had

tripped new chief executive lan Strachan and his team'

ingham Tyre and Rubber which evolved into the most highly regarded conglomerate in the country, plunged through 200p for the first time for more than seven years.

bled 9p to 197p; over the past year they have been as high as 284p and topped 400p in 1994. The shares, already reeling, were dealt a further blow by the profits warning earlier this month. The latest weakness

In heavy trading they tum-

seems to stem from a failed institutional placing and negative comments from ABN Amro Hoare Govett. One major shareholder is,

however, laughing all the way to the bank. As soon as BTR on board. But the razzmatazz produced its gloomy profits

Shares of BTR, the old Birm- pound to explain in part its discomfort. But it could not disguise that deep-seated prob-lems in other parts of the sprawling empire had tripped new chief executive Ian Stra-

chan and his team. The rest of the stock market had another of those indecisive days with Footsie swinging between a 21.2 points fall and a 10.8 gain. It closed off 5.2 at

Financials had an indifferent session as the market pondered the likely problems which will accompany the Halifax début on Monday.

There appears to be a huge queue of private buyers and many institutions need to climb is unsettling many who feel



MARKET REPORT

also creating anxiety. It is al- from the LVMH-created imready, say many private client stockbrokers, failing to offer the

sort of service they expected. the sheer deluge of Halifax its share buyback with Cazen-ove and Hoare Government to provoke record turnown There is a deep-rooted fear provoke record turnover.

Abbey National fell 25.5p to 901.5p and Alliance & Leicester, with Warburg seemingly placing 5 million shares at 618p, 9p to 614.5p. Barclays, the banking group which has

DEREK PAIN stock market reporter of the year

> broglio. Both lost 7p with GrandMet ending at 574p and Guinness at 575p.
> Royal & Sun Alliance, the in-

aging to pick up 3.5 million shares at 465p. The price dipped to 464.5p, off 6p. M&G, the unit trust group, failed to offer any inspiration when it reported its unit trusts

lied Domecq. After an early burst the shares settled at 445.5p. unchanged. Scagram, which is hardly overborrowed, has raised \$1.3bn through a share sale. Some see Seagram as a potential bidder for Allied

if, Bernard Arnault permitting, the GrandMet/Guinness deal Capel following a meeting with the brewer. The shares rose 4p to 804.5p. Newcomer Socco International, an oil group, sufgoes through. For the first time for a long while a representative of fered a depressing debut, falling Britain's industrial might led 19p from its 260p placing. the blue-chip leader board. GKN, still helped by a Merrill again firm, gaining 0.75p to Lynch buy circular, put on 26.75p. The shares were 17p

30p to 1,047.5p. It was comforted by receding fears of defence cuts and the view its US litigation problems have

pected to hold an investment presentation soon when, it is hoped, its involvement in the Falkland Islands, regarded by

takeover war chest, failed to Xenova, enjoying a link with leave much impression on Al- Parke Davis, the US group, was up 31p to 325p.

Bass shrugged off negative

Greenwich Resources was

last month. The company is ex-

comments from HSBC James

**FTSE 250** 4508.2 +0.2 Anglo United fell 0.75p to 1p **FTSE 350** as the Coalite deal with 2261.9 -2.0 Thomas Potts, suspended at **SEAQ VOLUME** 11.75p, was duly announced.

719m shares, 41,979 bargains Gilts Index

Data Bank

-5.2

**FTSE 100** 

4672.5

95.74 -0.08

#### Taking Stock

Ronson, the former brewer striving to build a range of upmarket international rands, is bumping along at a 16.5p low. Year's results are overdue. It was devastated by a warehouse fire and seems o have settled for 60 it of its £10m insuraim. Last year it £10.4m through a ssue. It has since of losses up to £1m.

	-		

burg to shares.	bank. As soon as BTR on board. But the reced its gloomy profits is unsettling many there might be a case ing the contrary app to unload 80 million s. It did so – at 219p.	romped ahead in unrestrained anticipation of a huge Halifax up to the spin off, slithered 39.5p to pectations. 1,218p.	had underperformed and its dividend was not being increased, wrong footing almost every City man and his dog.  Suggestions Scagram, the pean/US co-	were some strong some observers as the drug sector with the big oil frontiers, sect of closer Euro- poperation prompt-  the Falklands is harbo	a warehouse fire and seems likely to have settled for 60 per cent of its £10m insurance claim. Last year it raised £10.4m through a
latched	d onto the strength of the puterised settlement		Canadian drinks and media ing buying.	c, Glaxo Wellcome serves which are in a specific to 1,247.5p and the North Sea.	excess of rights issue. It has since warned of losses up to £1m.
Service of the servic	on instructed SBC War- to unload SP million  It did so – at 219p.  The role of the strength of the  done of the strength of the  done of the strength of the  so as each  so a	The country of the control of a huge Halifax with t	creased, wrong footing almost the very City man and his dog.  Suggestions Scagram, the Canadian drinks and media group, was putting together a and ded 20.5 to a suggestion of the prospect of	the drug sector with the big oil fromtiers, spelt out. There is spelt to the control of the cont	per cent of its £10m insur- culation culation curing re- cuccess of warned of losses up to £1m.  Taised £10.4m through a rights issue. It has since warned of losses up to £1m.  The price stanted of losses u

# LIG targets acquisitions

Sameena Ahmad

London International Group said yesterday that it saw significant opportunities for further acquisitions in its core condom and industrial gloves markets which would ensure double-digit earnings growth over the next few years.

Nick Hodges, chief executive. said the group was considering opportunities in a range of countries, including China, the Middle East, Eastern Europe and South America, to be funded from the group's strong internal cash flow.

He said that LIG's full-year results, reported yesterday, showed the group had moved from recovery to "a new phase

in its development". Strong growth in condoms and medical gloves helped LIG lift underlying full-year pre-tax profits by 36 per cent to £36m on sales 11 per cent ahead to £241m. The group's shares rose over 8 per cent to 169.5p.

However, analysts downgraded their profit forecasts for 1998 by around £5m to £47m, reflecting LIG's plans to increase spending on advertis-ing, roll out Avanti, the group's new polyurethane condom, into Europe and sterling's strength.

Mr Hodges said that al-though the US condom market remained difficult, with customers loyal to the leading brand Trojan, which has a 60 per cent market share, LIG was continuing to promote its Durex ularly strong. Though the conbrand "as a strong number two". This would involve rebranding its current six products under the Durex name. Analysts estimated the rebranding the roll out of Avanti from the US into Europe and the upgrading of the Aladan examination glove facility, bought last year, would push capital expenditure up from £16m this year to

£20m in 1998. However, they said the group should benefit from cost savings from integrating the Aladan condom factory in Alabama with the group's existing site.

Sales of the group's condom business rose 72 per cent overall to £130m, with sales in Asia Pacific, up 33 per cent, partic-

dom market grew just 2 per cent world-wide, LIG achieved 7 per cent volume growth with prices rising 3.5 per cent. Sales of Avanti in the US continue to be held back by restrictions imposed by the Food and Drug Administration, which demands that the material is fully tested over two years. This means LIG can only sell Avanti to people with latex allergies in the US. Mr Hodges said there were no

such restrictions in Europe. Sales of medical gloves grew 16 per cent to £89m, boosted by a £21m contribution from the gloves business acquired with Aladan. Sales to hospitals in the US were "superb", said Mr

# Race for the euro gets under way with Tony Bullimore on board

The euro may not yet be linked in British thinking with its sporting heroes, but in Cherbourg this Sunday one of them, the yachtsman Tony Bullimore, will be flying its flag as he takes to the sea again.

Made famous by being rescued from the icy southern ocean in January, Mr Bullimore is taking part in the Round Europe race. Another competitor from the race in which Mr Bullimore's yacht capsized, Pete Goss, was also supposed to do his bit for the euro by teaming up with the man he rescued, Kaphael Dinelli.

But Mr Goss is deep in negotiations for a book contract which could secure the family fortunes he put on the line to compete in that Vendée Globe single-

So Mr Bullimore finds himself part of European Commissioner Yves-Thibault de Silguy's mission to promote the slogan: "The euro - a currency for Europe."

The race from Cherbourg to Rotterdam, Kiel, Arendal in Norway, Oslo and Stockholm is. says Mr de Silguy, a "dynamic and intelligent initiative" which will "heighten the awareness of the citizens of Europe to the birth of

the euro". Here is a rich vein to be mined if a queue of cricketers, footballers, even snooker and darts players, forms outside his Brussels door as he adds: "At the same time as taking part in a great sporting event, the public will be able to obtain concrete information about the future single currency." As to discovering the euro through sport, why not?

You know who your friends are in the utility business. Ask Ken Harvey, the recently appointed chairman of South West Water who made his fame by leaving Norweb with almost £2m after the takeover by North West Water which led to the formation of United Utilities. Mr Harvey lost no time yesterday to wax lyrical about a Far Eastern misfor-

tune suffered by his former employer. Casting a dubious eye on North West's disastrous foray into the international water construction business (provisions of £83m on one contract in Bangkok), he said: "We decided long ago that the mega international projects far away from home are not suitable for a company our size" ... contrasting North West Water's experience and the now legendary profitability of South

West Water's non-regulated businesses. Luckily, journalists did not have to waste time putting Mr Harvey's theory to the test. For only a few minutes after he had put the boot in at a press conference at the Whitbread Brewery in the

PEOPLE & BUSINESS



Flying a European ensign: The yachtsman Tony Bullimore

City, it was United's turn to entertain the press pack a few yards down the road. United's directors, unsurprisingly, responded to questions about money lost down the Bangkok drain with a somewhat muted "disappointing".

One of the stalwarts of financial public relations, Lowe Bell Financial's senior director, "Jem" Miller, has written to clients advising them he is retiring from the front line at the end of the year. when he reaches the ripe old age (for spin doctors) of 63. Increasing difficulty making his fighting weight is thought to

have played a part in his decision. Recipients of the news include Highland Distilleries and Tate & Lyle, clients he has worked with for 20 years.

There is still a trace of Zimbabwean in his accent, and he trod the boards as a professional actor in Darkest Africa, playing among other parts Hotspur in Henry IV Part 1 at Kitwe on the Copper Belt. But, as Michael Caine might say,

"not a lot of people know that". He started work at Streets in 1972 when it had no clients at all, and later built his own business, which he sold to the American specialists in consumer PR Burson Marsteller a decade ago, be-fore moving on to Lowe Bell in 1988.

He will not be entirely lost to Fleet Street in general or El Vino's, and he will apparently consider consultancy work. He is a Keeper of the Quaich, a society that is to Scotch whisky what the Chevaliers de Tastevin is to Burgundy. For reasons best known to himself he is an honorary Lieutenant-colonel of the Alabama State Militia, although it is unlikely he has seen active service, and he could certainly earn a fee as a doppelganger for Helmut Kohl, the redoubtable German Chancellor, although Mr Miller himself insists he has more hair than Mr Kohl.

And talking of spin doctors we hear that Damian McCrystal, the former City hack, is looking so respectable these days that he is being mistaken for one of Andrew Regan's lawyers rather than what he really is, the failed Co-op bidder's PR man. Not that he will be fulfilling that function for much longer. With the Co-op bid sunk in a welter of litiga-tion, Mr McCrystal's services will no longer be required. He is due to leave in July but is right-lipped about his next move. He denies, however, that he is seeking a return to journalism. "I hear that rumour but it's not true." Perhaps

he could get a job at the Co-op.

### IN BRIEF

**US deal boosts Xenova's shares** 

Shares in Xenova, the fledgling biotechnology company, rose 10 per cent to 322.5p after news that it had signed its second agreement with Warner-Lambert to supply the US pharmaceuticals giant with chemicals to develop a cancer drug. Xenova has the world's largest collection of natural chemicals based on mushrooms, plants and beautiful. The deal is the largest of a current in allignost between historicals. bacteria. The deal is the latest of a surge in alliances between biotech companies and larger drug groups eager to exploit innovative technology. Wendell Wierenga, vice-president of research at Warner-Lambert's Parke-Davis division, said: "Through our collaborations with Xenova we are expanding Warner-Lambert's access to a broad diversity of naturally derived compounds." Xenova's other agreements include Zeneca and Bristol Myers Squibb.

#### **Assets appreciate at Raglan Properties**

Sir Wilfrid Newton, chairman of Raglan Properties, said the company intended to take advantage of improved market conditions to continue to restructure its portfolio and to proceed with its development and refurbishment programme. Speaking after the group announced a drop in full-year pre-tax profits from £2.4m to £2.1m, but a 7.5 per cent rise in net asset value to 33.6p per share, he said: "Rental growth and the active management of the portfolio will ensure that Raglan makes substantial progress in this year.' Development and refurbishment work set to come on stream this year includes a shopping centre in Banbury, Oxfordshire, and Hodge House in Cardiff, Wales. The dividend is held at 1.1p.

#### Strong pound puts pressure on Tring

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Foreign Exchange Rates

**Other Spot Rates** 

Tring, the music, video and CD-Rom publisher and distributor, announced a drop in annual taxable profits from £3m to £500,000 but said the results were in line with market expectations. Philip Robinson, chief executive, said that in the past year the group had made "significant further progress" in addressing the problems of the past and establishing a sound platform for the future. However, the strength of sterling over the past year had put pressure on export sales. In most of the countries where Tring trades sterling has appreciated by more than 20 per cent against local currency. Group results for April and May, though, are already ahead of last year.

# TLG turns light off in Germany

Cathy Newman

Up to 350 jobs are being lost across the continental European operations of TLG, the commercial lighting group formerly known as Thorn Lighting Group. Most of the job losses will result from the closure of its Ger-

man manufacturing operation. The company, which issued a profits warning last September, has made an exceptional provision of £13.5m for the rationalisation of its German business. The German market will be supplied from TLG's other sites in Europe. TLG said the move would lead to annualised savings of £4m in 1998/99, and £5m on completion

in 1999/2000.

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Analysts were surprised by the German closure, but the group's full-year results, announced yesterday, were slightly ahead of market expectations which had been downgraded in the wake of last year's warning. Profit before tax was £22.1m, compared with £28.6m last year, but the exceptional provision

took it down to £8.6m. Analysts said sentiment towards the stock remained poor, blaming tough competition in

some took solace from TLG's enthusiasm about growth in the Far East and China. In Asia, where TLG entered into a joint venture with Jardine Pacific last year, sales grew on a like-for-like basis by more than 30 per cent. There was also cause for

the electrical market. However

guarded optimism in the UK as the company managed to push through a price increase despite competitive conditions and sales remained virtually static at £130.7m. Sales of emergency lighting in the UK had doubled over the past five years, TLG The company's chairman, Hamish Bryce, said he had had no contact with Wassall, the glue

to cable and bottletops conglomerate, since it bought a 4.1 per cent stake in TLG in February this year. But some industry commentators speculated that Wassall, which spent £7m on the group, could launch an outright bid. Mr Bryce has said in the past that

TLG is pinning its hopes on the launch of new products. Products developed over the past three years now account for 40 per cent of TLG's turnover.

he would contest any hostile bid.

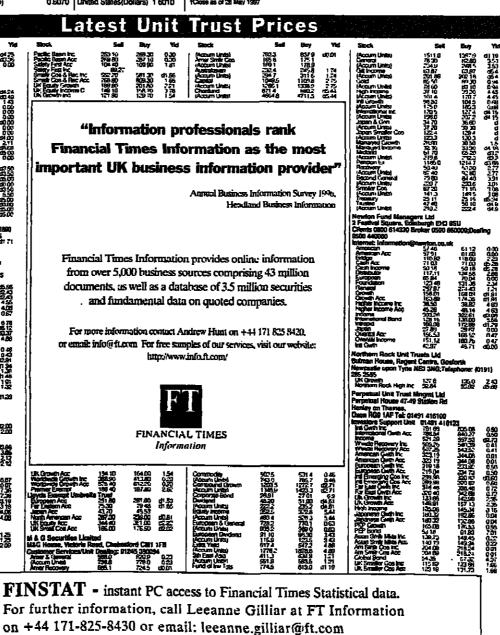
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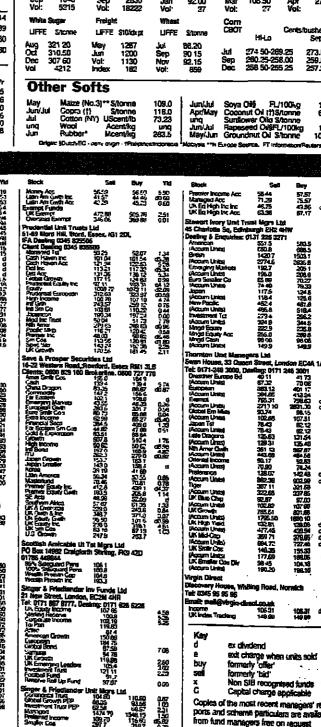
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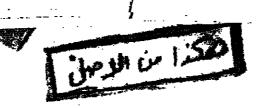
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# Rate quoted low to high are at a premium: \*Dollar rates quoted as reciprocals.







# Ramsden's **Epic Stand** turns Club

Racing **GREG WOOD** 

Justice was finally done in the case of Epic Stand and the Newcastle stewards yesterday. but it was of a very belated and unsatisfactory kind. Lynda Ramsden, the trainer of Epic Stand, won her appeal against the gelding's disqualification from first place in the Brandling House Handicap eight days ago, and his owners will receive their prize-money in due course, but there will be no trip to the payout window for the thousands of panters who had made Epic Stand their firm 13-8 favourite for the race.

Ramsden's runner was backed from 9-4, and duly passed the post three lengths to the good, though Fergal Lynch. his jockey, had suffered some trouble in running, giving Music Express, who was already beaten, a slight brush as he worked his way to the front.

That Epic Stand had caused minor interference was never in doubt, but few observers believed that the stewards would find Lynch guilty of anything worse than careless riding, which would allow them to suspend the jockey but leave Epic Stand in his thoroughly deserved first place.

Never, ever second-guess a steward. The officials at Newcastle promptly found Lynch guilty of the more serious offence of irresponsible riding. banned him for four days and demoted Epic Stand to last place. Yesterday's hearing in front of the Jockey Club's Disciplinary Committee reversed that decision - something that the committee never does lightly - and reduced the charge back to careless riding. Lynch's suspension is unchanged, but the rightful winner can at least take his place in the form book.

"I think it's a clear case of the only irresponsibility that anybody has show, never mind irresponsible riding, was the decision of the stewards and the stewards' secretary at Newcastle," Mrs Ramsden said after yesterday's hearing. "Racing is for punters and I think they have been absolutely robbed. How can they feel happy about a bet when there are scurrilous decisions like that?"

bookmakers, regardless of the fact that they had been spared stalled as the 12-1 favourite for a lumpy payout. "Epic Stand the Royal Hunt Cup after landwas very popular on and off the course," Rob Hartnett, the Monday, is a very doubtful run-Tote's public-relations manag- ner at Ascot next month.

er, said yesterday. "The Ramsden's horses are usually a warm order, and the result of the inquiry was greeted with dismay in all our shops. He was well backed, but we would rather that horses which win on their merits were to keep the race, since anything which makes the betting public think twice about racing is not a good

thing.

The connections will be pleased to get the race back, but whenever you have a bet on a horse, you almost get a little bit of ownership of it yourself, and unfortunately the tens of thousands who backed it will get

nothing."
While Lynch may feel a little aggrieved that his riding ban was unaltered, there was

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Fairly Sharp (Stratford 9.05) NB: Boss Lady (Bath 8.20)

better news yesterday for a former stable jockey to the Ramsdens, Kieren Fallon, who had appeared sure to miss both the Oaks, in which he will ride the favourite, Reams Of Verse, and the Derby thanks to a 10-day suspension imposed by stewards at the Capanelle in Rome on Sunday. Fallon had already decided to appeal against the ban, albeit with little serious hope of success, but a spokeswoman for the Italian Jockey Club, quoted in yesterday's Sporting Life, implied that even if the appeal fails, a way may be found to free Fallon for the most important weekend of the British Flat season.

"Statistically the chances of success at the hearing are very poor," the spokeswoman said, but what can be accepted is a request to defer the suspension when there are serious reasons for doing so. The fact that a jockey has rides in important races such as the English Derby would qualify as a serious reason."

Symonds Inn. Fallon's mount in the Derby, remains among the outsiders in an almost stagnant ante-post market, although the Tote did ease Entrepreneur. the hot favourite, from 45 to 5-6 yesterday, Michael Stoute, the colt's trainer, did long-range minters a favour, mean

#### Weight ties down Wizard

The Sir Mark Prescott-trained the Alain de Royer-Dupre vard, Wizard King (third) and James by a length and a half. Wiz-Fanshawe's Craigievar (fourth) ard King was anchored by his had to settle for supporting Group penalty, Prescott said." roles in the Group Three Prix The National Hunt jockey du Palais-Royal over seven fur- Jamie Railton has will retire longs at Longchamp yesterday. from the saddle tomorrow fol-Victory went to the even- lowing a career spanning 10

money Nombre Premier from years and 224 winners.

#### RACING RESULTS

RRIGHTON 2.10: 1 TRUTH TELLER (Dane O'Nei) 11-4.2. Phoning Ember 8-13 favourie; 3. Twen-tybre Black 33-1. 4 ran. stv-hd, 14. IR Hunnon, East Everleight. Totac £3.90. Disa Forecast £1.60. Computer Straight Forecast.

2.40: 1. STAND TALL (M Roberts) 11-2; 1. Statopork 4-5 fav: 3. Garespyr 14-1. 7 M. V., V. (Lacy Hernes, Latteramptor). Toke: FRE. Vi., (Lady Hernes, Littlehamptor), Total: ER 50: £2.50, £1.20. DF: £3.20. CSF; 3.10: 1. PADDY'S RICE (F Norton) 16-1: Queen's Insignie 7-1; 3. Gold Lance 11-15 ran. 5-1 tay Mr Cube (Atm. nk, 2/c.

(M Blamshard, Upper Lambourn). Total £22,90; £4,10, £1,90, £4,70, DF; £63,60, CSF: £107.93. Thoast: £798.77. Tho: £394.10 (part son, pool of £388.57 camed ment to Ayr 3.30 today).
3.40: 1 MANNLENO (M Roberts) evens tax; 2. Hillswick 20-1; 3. Private Fixture 20-2. 12 ma. 4, 3. (N Pre, Welington). Total £1-90; £1-30, £7-20, £4-10. DF: £41-60.

51 90; 51 30, 57 20, 54 10. DF: 541 50. CSF: £30.84. Tincast: £282.78. Tinc £213.50 (part won, pool of £129.32 camed forward to Ayr 3.30 today). NR: Dots Dec. 4.10: 1. RNAPSDDY IN WHITE (P Blochfield) 1-3 for 2. Public 16: 1.3. Barbory 84-16: 1.3 for Column 16: 10. Tinc 16: 10. Int 40-1, 4 ran, 1%, 5, IM Janes, Newt Total: £1,40, DF; £3.50, CSF: £5.81 4.40: 1 NORY'S CRAB HIRE (Matth 4.40: 1. NVRY'S LROW MARK [No. 3. Tone Dwyer 9-2; 2. Shump Imp 11-4 fav; 3. Tone Walke 25-1. 12 man. 1. 2. (K. hory, Radker), Tone £10.40: £3.10, £1.40, £8.40. SF: £12.10. CST: £15.85. Torcast £264.14. Torcast

£103.00). After a stewards' inquiry, the result Phospot: £193.40. Quadpot: £21.50. Phosp 8: £98.20. Place 5: £18.33. CARLISLE

2.20: 1. MENETTA (M Ferton) 7-2 co far. Mesono George 9-1; 3. Lakeland Pride 7-2 to tay. 14 ram. 7-2 to tays Quiz Master (60h), shr-hd, 11/: (M Bell, New \$4.80; £2.00. £1.80, £2.20, DF: £57.50. CSF: £34.62. Inc: £30.80.



2.50: 1. SHONTAINE (J Weaver) 8-1: 2. Stackattack; 10-1: 3. Rymer's Rascal 9-1. 15 ran. 7-2 fav Allurson's Mare (4th). 15. 7-2 15 ran. 7-2 fav Alimson's Mare (40h. ½. ¼. (M. Jornson). Mandehaml. Tota: 58-90: 52-90. 54-70. 52-40. DF: 542-90. CSF-581-54. Treast: 5705-14. Tre: 5112-90. 3-20: 1. ST BLARNE (A. Darley) 5-5; 2. Rahves 50-1; 3. Sharbadarid; eren 6a. 10 ran. 3½, 8. (D. Loder. Newmarkett. Tota: 51-90; 51-10, 52-80. (51.10. DF: 532-00. CSF- 580-18. Ten. 55-20

11.90; 11.10, 12.20, 11.10, 14. 12.20. CSF: 250.18, Top: 25.20. 2.50: 1 CORAL ISLAND (K Fatom 7-1: 2. lack Flosh 7-4 far. 3. Sparky 8-1. 7 rm. Strict, ink. J FitzGerate, Mattoni. Total 15.40: £3.70, £1.60, DF: £17.80, CSF:

4.20: 1. MUNGO PARK (1 Fortune) 9-1; 2. Berranek 5-1; 3. Ned's Bonanza 6-1; 13 ren, 3-1 tw Dommelle (5th), 1%, str.-hd, (hts. J. Rænsden, Thursh, Toter, 57-20; £2-50, £3.00, £2-50, DF: £71.20, CSF: £51.17, Tex.

1.50: 1. DURGAMS FIRST (A Curare) 5-1: 2. The Butterwick (Idd 8-11 fax; 3. in The Money 5-1. 4 rss. 2, 6. M/s M Reveley, Sab-burn. Tota: 56.20. DF: £2.10. CSF: £8.31. Jackpot: 530,862.50. Jacopot: £37,862.50. Placepot: £375.90. Quadpot: £72.10. Place 6: £266.46 Place 5: £149.16.

UTTOXETER 2.00: 1. ACAJOU III (P Carberry 5-4 far.; 2. Give And Take 8-1; 3. Riverbank Rosa 20-1: 9 ran. 4, 5. IG Rechands, Total: £2.10: £1.40, £1.20, £2.70, DF: £3.90, CSF: £9.93, [not £23.80, Non Runness Bet Wit-

STATE, Mr BOANGES. 2,30: 1 MASTER CRUSADER CHES DU-

Ed.) 11-2-2. Grizzy Boar event by 3. Qub-all Crossett 33-1. 8 ran. 2, 1, (0 W.Asrs). Tota: 57.70, £2.00, £1.10, 55.60, 07: 53.10. 3.00: 1 SRVER MINK (7 KM2): 7-1; 2. 3.00: 1. SELVER MENCK (P. NAME): 7-1; 2. Fremo 25-1; 2. Apolloom 5-1; 10 ran. 3-1; 24 Redmore Brands, 6, 16; 14/51 M. Reveloy, Toke: 56.60: 52.00, 58.60, 52.50, Dr. 593.70; CSF. E135.10. Tocast: E558.47. Fro: £164.20 (Dart with, pool of £129.57 carnet toward to Apr 3.30 (Data); 1. 3.30: 1. BLAZER MORNMERE: S. Fro: 11-20 (Sec. 2) Morney Menes 5-7-2; Mandred Re-

3.30: 1. BLAZER MOMENTER: S. Henley Re-gatta 9-2. 6 mm. 1%, 20. (P. Renter's: Total 52.07: 51.40, 51.40, DF: 51.90, CSF: 54.88, NR: Baby Parson, 4.00: 1. EDELWES DU MOULIN (P. Car-

4.30: 1 KB/G TORUS (AT ) Lives 10-11 5:: 2. Time Portune 8-1; 3. Municary More 13-11 ran. 1 - 28. Gurar Danta 1. Total 61 90: £150, £150, £140 DF, £800, CSF. 57.99. This 52.10. NP. Compared. 5.00: 1. STORMHEL STAG 1. Comments 5.00: 1. STORMHEL STAG 1. Comments 5-2: 2. Ol Mother 7-1 to 3. Ambeth 7-1. 15 mm. 2. 7. (P. Brasen). Total 5-4.75; 52.00. 51.40, 52.00, 0F: 53.90, CSF: 57.63, Tre: 510.50. NR: Darring in Rt. Placepot 511.90. Quadpot 55.60. Place 6: 58.81. Place 5: 55.13.

2.00 Lend A Hand 2.30 Double Alleged 3.00 Master Beveled

GOING: Good to Firm.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: None. ■ Left-hand galloping course; run-in 210yds.
■ Racecourse is east of the town on A758. Ayr railway station (service from Glasgow) is one mile away. ADMISSION: One Enclosure 57 (OAPs and students \$4). CAR PARK: Free.
■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS; M Johnston — 18 winners from 13! run-

HYPERION

3.30 Brandonville

4.00 French Grit 4,30 Mister Aspecto

■ LEADING JAMES WITH EUNNESS; H. JOHNSON — 15 WINGER ON 15 THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE WINGERS OF THE PROPERTY OF THE WINGERS, 18 JOHNSON — 16 WINGERS, 99 THIMERS, 16.3%, ~50.50; Mrs M Reveley — 15 WINGERS, 89 THIMERS, 16.3%, ~518.2%; J Berry — 13 WINGERS, 187 THANKERS, 16.9%, ~5100.13.

■ LEADING JOCKETS & Darley — 36 WINGERS, 167 rides, 21%, ~536.77; J Wenter — 24 WINGERS, 128 rides, 10%, ~528.94; K Fallon — 17 WINGERS, 129 rides, 13.2%, ~539.57; J FORENCE — 13 WINGERS, 120 rides, 10.8%, ~5.3 G2.

BLINEERED FIRST TIME: None. BLANKERED FIRST TIBLE: NOBE.
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Nobe.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Premier Generation (3.00) & John Lee Hooker (4.30) have been sent 394 miles by D Arbuhnot from Compton, Berks; Party Romance (2.30) sent 360 miles by B Hambury from Newmarket, Suffolk, Kalisz (2.30) sent 380 miles by D Loder from Newmarket, Suffolk, Kalisz (2.30) sent 380 miles by D Loder from Newmarket, Suffolk.

2.00 GREIG MEDDLETON PEP MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2YO 6f Penalty Value £2,934 ABERNEEN IM N A Rickles M Dods 9 0 ...... \_\_Dale Glaste 2 ......K Fallón 4

- 7 declared -BETING: 7-4 Peter's long, 4-1 Lond A Hand, 13-2 Rosp Generols, 8-1 Up The Clorets, 10-1 Anka Lody, 16-1 Pleasant Dreams, 26-1 Aberitaes 1990: Santsung Sprit, 2 B 9 J Quinn 10-1 (E Waymesi delwin (6) 10 ran

1996: Samsung Spint 2 B 9 J Quinn 10-1 (E Weymest drawn (ii) 10 ran FORM GUIDE Great Commotion, the size of LEND A HAND. second in the Insh 2,000 Guineas and then without of the Beaswing at Newcastle, Great Commotion displayed this class once more when drooped to six furlongs to land the 1980 Cork & Orrery States at Royal Ascot. If Lend A Hand less inherited any of that sort of ability this race will be his for the taking, and the whes are good after a warving debut by the stable's Princely Heir at Ripon on Wednesday, also in the Maktoum Al Mathoum colours. Jack Berry's Peters's timp led for four furlongs on his debut at Haydock and is the oblique danger, he finished a creditable third to Michael Bar's Hoh Chi Min, who went on to Newbury to finish third to Nadwah. Reap Research's Sire, Barry's Gamble, was a Royal Ascot wither, and its half-elsas fibe ins, was very stat. Promee was shown at Beverley, but there must be a doubt over the form of that race won by Branston Berry, white Up The Clarets and Asilta Lady look too highly third.

2.30 GET-EDGED MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,626 

SETTING: 4-1 Colour Code, Party Romance, 11-2 Double Allegad, 7-1 Kalisz, 25-1 Ardamock Prince

Jack Doyle 1998: Temptress 3 & 11 Dean McKeown 7-1 (P Welwyn) drawn (4) 4 ran

4.50 Fullopep

GOING: Good to Firm.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 5f.

Left-hand course, undulating and sharp.

Course is NW of town on A0136, Darlungton station 14m - bus service to course. ADMISSION: Chib S11; Tauersalis S7;

Course \$2.50 (under 10s free into all enclosures). CAR PARK:

ONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Rose Of Glenn (2.50) & Munici-

pg) Girl (4.20) have been sent 333 miles by B Palling (non Yatrad

wen. South (flamorgan: Country Garden (2.20) & Bold Spring 1.20) sent 25:1 miles by R Hannon from East Everleigh, Wiles.

2.20 STAPLETON MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 270 fillies 5f

3 STREET PROSEE (25) (BF) R Boss & 1 ....

sy Culty Ch., Blitz. Sweet Rosie, 14-1 Its Ali Reletive, 16-1 other

2.50 CROFT SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,875 added 1m 5f 175yds

1-52-1 PROBLET (MARLET (124) (b) W Targita's 5 8 7 ... M Henry (3) 1

BETTIGH: 9-4 Petrolain, 9-2 Batalanco, 5-1 Phanly Duncer, 6-1 Risky Rose 3-1 Schby's Dream, 12-1 Creigny, 20-1 Rose Of Gloss, 25-1 others

3.20 WENSLEY SPRINT HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 added 3YO 5f

01-524 BALLYMOTE (12) (D) J Berry 9 7 \_\_\_\_\_\_ K Darley 3 003-01 BRANDLE BEAR (11) (D) M Bienstard 8 12 (7ed ... J Quinn 4

Reserved area \$2, remainder Free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Sarabi (visored) (4.20).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None

POWER CAUDE.

DOUBLE ALLEGED was hald in high regard by Mark Johnston last year and this must surely be the start of better things for the son of Alleged. Softh of 17 to Happy Valenane at Yarmouth last backend, Double Alleged came on far his Ripon second to Lawahik to run Badlesmere close at Salisbury. Banbury and Out Of Sight are subsequent winners from tradisenter course at Salsdow, samour and our or sight are subsequent witners from the Ripon race and Double Alleged should take this, provided David Loder's newcorner Poissh Precedent Billy Kallisz isn't ultra-sman. Party Romance is better than the Chester handleap not behind Great Child suggests, though this strong-public seems up against it with Double Alleged in the rece. The others are jumping horses and hard to fancy - Colour Code at least being on a more favourable surface after his Hamilton second to One For Balleys with Andamoch Prince 12 lengths behald him.

3.00 GREIG MIDDLETON STOCKBROKERS HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,500 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £5,150 

– 5 décisired – Afrimum weight: 7st 10h. Yuse handkap weight: Keep Batting 7st 8to. BETTING: 5-2 Walfs, 3-1 Premier Generation, 7-2 Moster Boveled, 5-1 Lapu-Lapu, 8-1 Keep Bat-

10-003 LAPU-LAPU (7) (D) (Mr Dunstan French) M Carrecto 4 7 10 \_\_\_\_\_ 12-504 KEEP BATTUNG (9) (CD) (Mr J S Golde) J Golde 7 7 10 \_\_\_\_\_

1996: Samanan 5 9 10 K Ralion 10-3 tay (M Hammond) drawn (6) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

WAFIR has a fine chance in this lower gade after a neck second to Chempagne Prince in the Zetland Stakes at Redcar on Monday. He was 7to better with Chempagne Prince after the nine-length bearing at Newmarket, but it still showed he was back to his best. Presider the min's length beating at Newmanist, but it still showed ne was back to his best, Presiner Generation's decent form of late has been in soft ground, though he should cope with fast going being a son of Cadestus Generatus. His rating has shot up 7th for the Newbury win from Bakers Daughter, but the third, Princess Danielle, has won since, and Premer Generation is improving. Mascher Bewelded prefers some cut in the ground and he had his surface at Newbury last time when second to Phonetic. Lapur-Lapur instituted to her best at Ponte-fract last week when third to Opalette. This fast-ground lover must have a fine chance against Make in product of 2ct.

3.30 GREIG MIDDLETON PRIVATE CLIENT HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 1m Penalty Value £3,149 40-205 MAPULSINE AIR (22) (D) (Mr T A Scothern) E Weymes 5 10 0 \_\_\_\_\_\_ IF Patton 7 08-002 SOMERTION BOTY (24) (C) (D) (Mr S Jens MacPheson) P Calver 7 9 13 \_\_\_\_\_ S Deffield 12 12640 - HIGHISPED (294) (CD) (Mr David R Wingin) S Notificed 5 9 8 \_\_\_\_\_\_ J Fortune 2 130-12 STORMALESS (25) (C) (D) (Mr David R P Mygni S Notificed 5 9 8 \_\_\_\_\_ J Fortune 2 140-01 STORMALESS (25) (C) (D) (Mr David R P Mygni B 7 08-01 D Mygni B 7 08-0 ADMANCE EAST (JE) (No A F Monk) M Dads 5 9 0 ... 

Minutum weight 7st 10th. True handicap weight Mayang 7st 9th.
BETTHIS: 13-2 Somerton Boy, 7-1 Brandonville, 15-2 Boweliffe, Stormiers, 10-1 Advance East, Imputshe Akr, 12-1 Maurang, Origie, 14-1 Mister Westsound, Running Green, 18-1 Tibbi Blues, 20-1

1998: Highspeed 4 8 12 J Fortune 5-2 (S Kettlewell) drawn (S) 6 ran

1998: highspeed 4 8 12 J Fortune 5-2 is Nettlewell orann py over 1998: highspeed 4 8 12 J Fortune 5-2 is Nettlewell orann py over 1998. BOWCLEFFE will do for me on his third start since joining Enc Alston. He won a low-grade randicap last year, but it's his tatest performance that takes the eye. In a Pontefroct claimer over today's trip, Bowcliffe had a huge task at the weights yet ran incredibly well in third to Golden Thurnderboit and Whittle Rock, who would have been giving him stacks of weight in the can repeat that run, Bowcliffe will take the beating against lower-rate of the contract to the c Golden Thurderbolt and Whittle Rock, who would have been giving him stacks of weight in a handicap. If he can repeat that run, Bowcliffe will take the beating against lower-rated runners. Somerton Boy has won three times here and looks ready for another good show-ing over the extra furlong efter his staying-on neck second to Fame Again at Doncaster. When beating Quilling here less June, Somerton Boy had Misster Westsound three lengths behind in Rith. Misser Westsound is now 16th better off and this will be the first time this

year he has had his right ground. Impulsible Air had the testing ground egainst him at Chester last time, but he doesn't appeal with a big weight even if the grade is lower after his New-castle second to Thirte Arch Bodge. Stormless put his starrane to good use to bear Brougtinne Pride in the soft at Hamilton this morath, but he's really a ten-furing house and may be outpaced on this surface. Brandonville, formerly with len Belding, didn't take too kindly to a couple of smacks from Dean McNeown on the course name days ago. He soil won that noe in the soft, but the prownity of the third, the ten-year-old Table Blaces, showed what a bad handcap that was. Offsite won an apprender area at Redcar last time, but the well-backed Mourangs (fifth) and Advance East. (13th) might well do better herb, especially Advance East, a winning hunder and with Jason Weaver booked. Three-times course winner High-speed needed his first run lest year before coming good.

Selection: BOWCLEFFE

4	.00	ST VINCENT HIGH INCOME HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 6f Penalty Value £3,730
1	000-00	MR OSCAR (26) (At W McKeown) W McKeown 5 10 ()
2	3-0042	GARANOCK VALLEY (13) (C) (D) (Mr Robert Amt) J Berry 7 9 10
3	05-100	FRENCH GROT (13) (D) Our C Michael Wilson) M Dods 5 9 4
4	2 0023	JUST BOB (S) (G) (D) (BF) (Mr.) Forterny) S Newcest 8 9 3 Fortune 4
5	400-02	THE LAMERON WORM (24) (CD) (Lord Durbarry D Strait 3 9 3
6	203111	GADGE (8) (D) (Atr.) B Wilcox) A Batey 6 9 2 (Sex)
7	00-500	DON'T CARE (18) (D) (Mr C ) C McLaren) Miss L Perrett 6 9 0
8	0-0011	SMOKEY FROM CAPLAN CLA) (D) (b): 6 P Bernacchi)   1 O'Neil 3 B 9
9	64-030	TIME TO TANGO (14) (Mrs D N B Pearson) G M Moore 4 8 8 A Culture 6
10	162620	AMERON (13) (CD) (At Roy Pecbles) J Berry 10 8 7T £ Dureau (5) 9

SETTING: 9-2 Godge, 11-2 The Lambton Worte, 13-2 Germock Valley, 7-1 Time To Tango, 8-1 Smoke From Capiers, America, 12-1 French Grit, 14-1 others 1996: Palo Blanco 5 9 B J Fortune 6-1 (T D Barron) drawn (3) 10 ren

FREINCH GRIT can be yet another winner from the Pernyston View race at Newmaniet four wakes ago. He finished mo-division, though beaten only live lengths, and he had earlier taken advantage of a good draw at Ripon to beat Kira, on which form he can be fanced to again hold fixes To Tanglo, The Lembton Worms and Mir Deepr. French Crit has since been badly drawn at Thirsk and now meets Barnock Valley (second to So intrepid) on 71b better terms. The Lembton Worm, who meets French Crit 38b better for the five-length bearing at Ripon, has since fixed a stiff test against Birt. Albandigs in a conditions race at Donasster. Also Bastey makes a bold bid in intimig Gadge over a mp short of his best. Of course, Gadge is in blinding form and has been collecting in higher-grade handicaps, but he'il do extra well to handle these specialised spiriters. Sanotery From Captew defied a 71b penal-ty when taking on older mats at Thisk last time and the second, Bissenghnisquee, has won since. He beat Time To Tango a bit further than did French Grit at Ripon so must be respected getting 9th from Michael Dods' charge. Just Bob still seems best over the minimum truy. FRENCH GRIT can be yet another winner from the Perryston View race at Newmarket fou

FORM GUIDE

2	.30	GREIG MIDDLETON PORTFOLIO CHARITY STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 1m 5f Penalty Value £2,637
1	100052	BARBARA'S JEWIEL (19) (Mrs Barbara Hagens) A Balley 5 9 11K Fallon 5
2	1122-1	HEATHYARDS ROCK (14) für G.A Marini R McKeller 5 9 11
3	31235/	JOHN LEE HOOKER (644) Mr Christopher Winght) D Arbuthnot 5 9 9
4	30002	MISTER ASPECTO (16) (D) (Aspecto Clothing Co Ltd) M Johnston 4 9 9
5	/00024	SHERROY (37) (Mes N F Thesigen S Kettlewell 5 9 9
~		WATER TOTAL TOTAL TRANSPORT OF THE PARTY OF

1996: Candle Smile 4 9 12 Dean McKeown 2-1 (M Staute) drawn (4) 5 ran

FORM GUIDE STER ASPECTO rates cornething of a handicap ship after his latest fine second to Can ton Vergure on Equitrack. He won at Beverley and Hamilton last year and writ take some stopping today now the ground has come right for him. Kathryn's Pet just creeps into the rice efter a fine second at the weights to the Butterwick Mid at Musselburgh, as does Sammerhall Special after ner recent second to Road Racer at Annafract. This pair look bester than Thirsk claimer winner Healthyards Rock, who was bought for £6,000 afterwards.

Selection: MISTER ASPECTO

#### CATTERICK

Minimum weight: 7st 10th. The harding weight: Thiker's Surprise 7st 9th. BETTING: 10-11 Bellymote, 7-2 Branchte Beer, 8-1 Ticker's Surprise, 25-HYPERION 2.20 Its All Relative 2.50 Batabanoo 3.20 Bramble Bear 3.50 Donna's Dancer 4.20 Bold Spring

3.50 PEN HILL CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 5f -03610 PALACEBATE TOUCH (18) (CD) J Berry 7 9 13. 450340 CAPTAIN CARAT (7) (D) (BIT) D Nicholis 69 1 ...

000/20 CAPTAIN SINEAD (39) K Briguster 5 8 13..... V Stationy 6 B SOUTHERN DOMESON (13) (D) Mes J Croze 5 8 11. 0055-5 WONDRUSH BOY (141) (D) M R Bosley 7 8 11 ... 

- 10 declared BETINE: 9-4 Paiscegate Fouch, 4-1 Donn's Dancer, 6-1 Captain Carat,
10-1 Besinful Scare, Antithesis, 12-1 Southern Donainion, 20-1 Windresh
Boy, 25-1 others

4.20 GRINTON HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO 6f

023-55 BOLD SPRING (129 R Hermon 9 7 ....... 0-0345 FALLS CHROMESS (12) K Burke 9 5 ...... 25-100 MON BRUCE (18) (D) W Mur 9 1 ....... ......R Pfrench (5) & ....... D Smith (3) 4 104606 ABSTONE QUEEN (11) (C) (D) P D Evens 8 6. 0-0560 DOCKLANDS CARRIAGE (25) (D) N Tinkler 8 6. 00-000 SARABI (18) (C) J Peace 8 6 

- 10 destared -BETTING: 6-1 C-Harry, 7-1 Municipal Girt, 8-1 Bold Spring, 12-1 Falls O'Han-ess, Mon Bruce, Calro Dito, 16-1 Abstone Queen, Docktands Carriage,

4.50 MUKER RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 1m 4f 30-003 ANCHOR VENTURE (16) S Woods 4 9 9...... 6333P CASCATELLE BLEUE (285) M Tomplens 4 9 6...

BETTERS: 3-1 indigo Dama, 11-2 Jean Pierre, 7-1 Le Grand Gousier, 8-1 Anchor Venture, 10-1 Fullopop, Showcase, 12-1 Six Clerks, 14-1 others

#### WOLVERHAMPTON HYPERION 2.10 Desert Invader 2.40 Rambo Waltzer 3.10

Ringleader 3.40 Zuhair 4.10 Cuban Nights 4.40 Dayrella GOING: Standard. STALLS: 71 - outside; rest - inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: high from 61 to 1nt 4f.

Fibresand, left-hand, oval course.

Course is N of town on A49, Wolverhampton station 1m. ADMESSION: Club £15; Tattersalls £6 (OAP members of Diamond
Club £4); Viewing Restaurant £25.80 including outrance and meal. CAR PARA: 1700. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ethhant (visored) (3.40); Greenbrook (3.10); Warning Time (3.40); Royal Legend (4.10); Legend Of

IRRS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None LONG-DISTANCE EUNNEERS: Thanks Keith (3.10) & Forsair (4.10) have been sent 181 miles by J J O'Neill from Skelton Wood-

2.10 CLOWN AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (CLASS G) £2,875 added 1m 100yds 011033 AMBEL FACE (4) (C) (D) P D Eers 4 11 7, Mr A Brans (4) 5 0000-0 EVERSET (6) (3) A Baley 9 10 11, Mas A L Hotchinson (7) 3 021 50 WANKING BEACH (121) (CD) G L Moore 6 10 10 .....

510020 MONTONE (6) (D) J Jenstrs 7 10 6 \_\_Dr M Mannish (4) 7 V 0-8224 DANCING SIOUX (11) R Guest 5 10 3 \_Mes Z Burbett (7) 8 533424 DREAM CARREER (64) (C) (D) R Peacock 9 9 0 ... 10 3040-0 BREEZED WELL (39) (CD) K Wingove 11 9 0 ....

Well 7st 13th, Sarum 7st 10th. mer (g. 130, 3876) facu, 7-1 Desert Invader, 8-1 Walkitt Beach, Mos-bne, 10-1 Antonyo, Wentbridge Lad, 12-1 Dencing Sieux, 26-1 others

2.40 GROUPER CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 1m 1f 79yds

232000 CHADLEIGH LANE (LD) (C) A Multiplierd 5 9 6... 

	3.10	STAR MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,500 added 2YO 6f					
1		CRALMANO (18) N Littroden 9 0T G McLaughlin 6					
2		CREENBROOK (7) W G M Turner 9 O D McGartin (7) 10 B					
1	3 32	OH MEVER AGAIN (25) (BIF) M Johnston 9 0 D Holland 8					
ě	1	PRESS AHEAD B McMahon 9 0R Cochrane 1					
4	. 0	RED RISK (49) P Hams 9 0					
ŧ	5	RINGLENDER P Cole 9 0C Rather 9					
1	7	TANGERME FLYER J Berry 9 0P Roberts (5) 5					
į	3 43	THANKS KEITH (22) J ) O'Neil 9 0 Carroll 7					
Ś	6	ANGE MINOR (11) J Wharton 8 9					
1	10	STRAVSEA B Bruch 8 9R Perham 3					
		– 10 declared –					
	BETTING: 9-4 Ringleader, 5-1 Thanks Reith, 6-1 On Never Again, 7-1 Tan- geriae Piper, 14-1 Press Ahead, Stravsea, 25-1 Angle Minor, 33-1 others						

3.40 MINNOW HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,325 added 6f 626000 BOLD EFFORT (9) (D) k Cunningham-Brown 5 9 6... 4-0004 WARNING TIME (9) (0) B Meshan 4 9 5 ... R Hinglos 10 8 635241 ROBO MARIC (29) (0) (0) (1 Mortingue Hall 5 9 0 ... F Lynch (3) 8 3-1156 THE HAMPY FOX (42) (1) B McMahon 5 8 12 ... R Cochrane 4 B 11-144 Aust LOUI (20) (C) (D) W G M Tume: 3 8 11 ... 

- 11 dec - 11 cocareu -BEJTHNR: 5-2 Kira, 4-1 Robo Magic, 6-1 Zuhair, 8-1 Master Boots, 9-1 The Happy Fox, 10-1 Double-O, 12-1 Jast Looi, 14-1 others

4.10 LION SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,875 added 1m 4f 353646 FORZAIR (11) (D) J J O'Neil 5 10 0 6 404320 SKELTORI SOVEREIGN (10) R Hollinshead 3 8 7 . F Lynch (3)

- 6 declared -BETTING: 2-1 Skeiton Sovereign, 3-1 Royal Laguad, 4-1 Cabus Mights 20-1 Forzair, Glen Gamock, Slightly Special

#### 4.40 ANGEL HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added fillies & mares 7f 505000 TEA PARTY (4) (C) K Cunnington-Brown 4 9 11

00-631 DAYRELLA (16) W Mur 3 8 4 .....

HYPERION 8.20 Scoss 6.50 Cherished 7.20 Mountaineer 7.50

Nopalea (nb) 8.20 Nubile 8.50 Blue Imperial GOING: Good to Firm. GOING: GOOD OF FRIN.

STALLS: Strength course - lat side, round course - inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Name.

Left-hand, galloping course. Four furlong run-in bends to the tell and is upon at the way. ### Racecourse is two miles north-west of city near A431. Buth rail station two miles away. ADMISSION: (Inb £13 (accompanied under-16s free): Tattersalls £8; Silver Ring £4 (inc £4 per car);

Course 52. CAR PARK: Free.

BLINKEERD FIRST TIME: Causbridge Blue (7.50).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Mystical (7.50) has been sent 228. ules by Mrs L Stubbs from Hutton Sessay, North Yorkshire.

6.20 GRITTLETON MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 1m 2f 46yds 62 SCOSS (18) L Ourren 3 6 10. Pat Eddery 4
O IQMAESIN (11) M Hearn-Elis 3 8 5 Shortens 2
O THAN SIN (12) J Toke 3 8 5 Sanders 1
OS LITTLE MISS ROUGER (246) I Bairing 3 8 5 T Quita 3
O-2) MISS RIVIERA ROSE (12) G Wagg 3 8 5 M Hills 6
O MY JESS (19) S Kingt 3 8 5 R Pedium 5 - 6 declared -RETTING: evens Scoss, 9-4 Miss Riviera Rose, 4-1 Little Miss Rocker, 8-

1 Umelight, 9-1 Rhamsin, 14-1 My Jess. 6.50 SWAINSWICK MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,500 added 240 filles 5f 161yds APPLE SAUCE J Andi 8 11. ....D Harrison 5 ASCOT CYCLONE B HC 8 11 . ASPEN R Harmon 8 11 MANUES WEEK 3 Smart & 11. LAMOURA (29) R Streeton 8 11 ..... MAKE BELIEVE R Charton 8 11 ..... IDENTY MAGIC (26) Mrs P Dutliekt 8 11 ..... A Wheten (2) 1 PETARSA (JA) Flore 8 11 Sanders 13
PHANTON WATERS R Lotes on Houghton 8 11 I Redd 11
SNUAZINE D Flores Dess 8 11 R Price 1 73.542 W.R.Hem 8.15.....

EFTUNG: 7-2 Chemished, 4-1 Accet Cycless, 5-1 Aspen, 11-2 Make Beliese, 6-1 Tajmil, 12-1 Francescu's Felly, Mighty Magic, 14-1 others FRIDAY EVENING HANDICAP (CLASS D)

7.20 FREDAY EVEN 3YO 2m 1f 2023 MOUNTAINEER (21) N 381 9 7 2025 ME WALEY (41) 7 Chapple Ham 9 5 20014 SUDEST (10) (89) 1 824 mg 9 4 2024 CLD COUNT (197) 7 Chi 9 0 Pet Eddary 5 0-530 MAZARA (21) A F3587-85\_ 9.325: PORFORD LAD (60) 7 lanes 7 10 ... 003-00 PREST MAN (21) 8 Usuelly 7 10 ... - 7 declared -

TEMPUS FUGIT B Mikmen 8 11.

7.50 HAYMAKING CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 3YO 5f

040-64 LUCKY DIP (28) D Elsworth 92.... 640060 FIT FOR THE JOB (12) T Wall 87 ...... -31443 SPARKLING EDGE (87) (D) C Dwyer 8 6. 604-00 STOCK HILL DANCER (T) 8 Mechan 8 6... G Hannot (T) 15 B 600 SOMERSKIN (1.1) M Mugendge B O...... Martin Dwyer (3) 13 — 15 declared —

SETTING: 11-2 Cambridge Blue, 7-1 Homenty Miss, Nopales, 8-1 Silver Links, 10-1 Stock Hill Dancer, College Princess, 12-1 Spariding Edge,

8.20 HAMSWELL MAIDEN FILLES STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 5yds

BICHELLA (243) A P Jones 4 9 7,..... BOLD SECRY A P Jones 389...... BOSS LADY (11) R Charlon 389 ..... 50 FLYAMAY HELL (FR) (260) P Herrs 389 \_\_\_\_\_\_R Hills 9 00 MASHADBAH (S) R Harron 389 \_\_\_\_\_\_T Quins 2 0-3 MUSTE (25) BHBs 389.... . ME HEMS 10 5.5 TAMESHAM (CAN) (15) M Strute 3.89 ... – 10 deciared – BETTRICE 9-4 Hotylin, 3-1 Tapgahan, 9-2 Boos Lady, 8-1 Mashkorsh, 10-1

Flyanczy HEI, 33-1 otbers

8.50 END OF THE DAY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO 1m

0-04 MUSTY RAIN (19) B (B) 9 7... AI HES 000-0 SAND CAY (18) R Hannon 9 2 ..... 0-120 BRANE ENWOY (15) M Heaton-Elis 91... S Drovene S 2:0523 SHOW ISLAND (22) 8 Paling 9 1... \_7 Serate 10 ...J Reid ? 16-040 CERTAIN MAGE (18) W Mur 8 11. 00-01 BUTE DAPERM (FR) (15) (D) J HAS 89... 000-50 SUN 07TROL (15) J Anold 89 ...... 60-00 BOLD SABIT (24) P Hants 8 6 ... A McGione 13 میں۔ 000 DOYERRE (19) G Loves 7 13 ......

- 13 declared -RETTING: 41 Bine Imperial, 11-2 Aficiencie, 6-1 Misty Rain, 7-1 See Island, 9-1 Prince Of Fortune, 10-1 Brave Envoy, Doyenne, 14-1 Certain

#### STRATFORD

HYPERION 6.35 Persian Butterfly 7.05 Distant Memory 7.35 HAY DANCE (nap) 8.05 Earthmover 8.35 Storm Falcon 9.05 Fairly Sharp

Left-hand course with 200yd run-in. Course is south-west of Stratford-on-Avon on A439. Stratford raff station 1m. ADMISSION: Club £13; Tattersalls £9; Course 24. CAR PARE: Inside course 52, remainder free.
BLINEERED FIRST TIME: Verro & Red Tel (both visured, 6.35).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Indian Jockey (8.35) won at Cartmel on Saturday and Wedn LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Night Time (6.35) has been sent 185 miles by A Hobbs from Hendham, Devon.

6.35 BAHLEYS ORIGINAL IRISH CREAM SELL-ING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,500 added 2m 110yds

090401 PERSAN BUTTERFLY (14) (CD) R Strongs 5 11 0 ..... Calledy P-5040 BUCIANT OUTBURST (9) (D) Mss S Witon 7 11 0 ...... P0000 SOCIER BALL (9) T Watson 7 10 0 \_\_\_\_\_\_ W Marst 1000 LEZUJA (14) J Fox 5 10 0 \_\_\_\_\_ S F U69500 TUG WORR FORELOCK (12) G Johnson Hougiton 6 10 0 \_\_\_\_ 17 00P-00 YERRO (5) K Bishop 10 10 0 

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weight Lithum 9st 10th, Tug Your Foreipci, Verm & Premier Star Sci Sth. Les Ardy Sts 3th. SETUNG: 5-1 Persian Botterfly, 6-1 Hever Golf Diamond, 7-1 Red Tel, 8-1 Salman, Captain Tandy, 10-1 Jewel Thief, 12-1 Our Eddie, Mility, 14-1

7.05 JEAN AND TONY HIBBERT NOVICE HAND-ICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m 5f 110yds

122464 DISTUNT MEMORY (16) (D) P Hobbs 8 11 10 .... A P McCoy B 424033 SPRING TO GLORY (28) P Hayward 10 16 13..... - 5 declared -

SETTING: 6-4 Boots N All, 5-2 Distant Memory, 4-1 Spring To Gibry, 6-1

	-20354	PATINA 552) R Hollinghead 3 8 3						
D	356040	EFFETUE (6) N Bycroft 4 8 2						
1	5065/0	LA SPAGNA (8) M Usier 6 7 12						
2	00-350	CHAMPAGE ON ICE (21) P D Bers 3 7 10 .A McCarthy (7) 8						
-		- 12 declared -						
ān	Bramum welgn; 7st 10to. True handicap welgn: Champagne On lice 7st 6tb.							
ETTING: 7-2 Dayretin, 11-2 Pation, 13-2 Makasian, 8-1 Mody Masic, Sami-								
inster, 10-1 Advance Repro, 12-1 Tea Party, 20-1 others								
MODEL TO TABLESO HOP S, 12 C 700 ( O 1) 1 - 1 - 1 - 1								
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725 TARMAC CONSTRUCTION HANDICAP HUR-								
		TARMAC CONSTRUCTION HANDICAP HUH-						

hinerum wegit: 10st. Tue handicap wegit: Bailet Royal 9st 13b. BETTING: 8-11 Yebraica, 4-1 Hay Danca, 10-1 Kadastrof, Bailet Royal, 12-1 Casilia Secret, Kino's Cross

8.05 HORSE AND HOUND CHAMPION NOVICE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £6,000 added 111111 EARTHMOVER (17) R Barber 6 12 0 \_\_\_\_\_Miss P Gonday (7)
2R1121 GREENMOUNT LAD (21) | Comforth 9 12 0 \_\_\_\_\_Air P Condouth (7)
-F2124 MESTER MORATIO (20) W Levis 7 12 0 \_\_\_\_\_Mir M Levis (7)

11F11 PRINCE BUCK (20) M J Roberts 7 12 0......Mr P Hacking (3) 1-4211 SHURL'S STAR (19) Mrs D Hamer 6 12 0......Mr P Hamer (7) -11111 STRUGGLES GLORY (31) D Roomson 6 12 0... Mr D C Robinson (7) F1134 TAURA'S RASCAL (26) F Brennen B 12 0 ... Air F Brennen (7)
1FUPP3 TOATS GENTM STAR (9) 0 Center 9 12 0 Miles V Roberts (7) 1-0115 PHAR TOO TOUCHY (8) (88) V Dornal 10 11 9 ... -9 declared -SETTING: 2-1 Earthmover, 3-1 Prince Buch, 7-2 Stangeles Glory, 8-1 Green-mount Ltd., 12-1 Shell's Star, Phar Too Touchy, 14-1 Mister Horstio,

8.35 WEATHERBYS YOUNG HORSE AWARDS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000

added 2m 1f 110yds 10301P FIFTYSEVENCHANNELS (103) (D) Mass H Knight 8 12 0... 

-00022 STORM FALCON (LA) (C) (EF) S Mellor ? 11.2 ..... C Webb (3) - 4 declared -BETTERO: 1-2 Indian Jackey, 9-2 Fiftysevenchamels, 6-1 Storm Falcon,

9.05 GRANDSTAND CONSULTANTS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 2m 110yds 00004 EAU BENTE (748) N Berry 5 10 12 ..... PO FRIAR'S DAK (7) P Butter 5 10 12 Mer 0 McPhall (7) 220 SEMPERIO (250) N CARRY 7 10 12 CT | 10 S ... & Deswoody |
0-0222 FARRY SHARP (27) (D) Graeme Roe 4 10 S ... & Deswoody |
0-0222 FARRY SHARP (27) (D) Graeme Roe 5 10 7 .... W Monston |
0-0224 FARRY SHARP (27) IR Best 6 10 7 .... Mr P O'Reeffe (7) |
4322 MIGHT ESCAPADE (60) C Weeton 5 10 7 .... M Richards

4 PRESS AGAIN (20) P Hayward 5 10 7 ..... SETTING: 6-4 Mett The Clouds, 11-4 Fairly Sharp, 13-2 Alafleis, 10-1 Camp Head, 16-1 Eau Bentle, Sidanora, Night Escapade, 25-1 others

# Dortmund demonstrate subtle art of control

Howard Wilkinson, the Football Association's new director of coaching, is rewriting the discredited Book of Hughes. Yet the maxim of Charles Hughes, former director, and, before him, of Charles Reep, once the mentor of Stan Cullis with Wolves, was re-emphasised by the European Cup final here on Wednesday night: the majority of goals come from three passes or fewer, are predominantly dependent on defender error,

and often stem from set pieces. Juventus, the defending champions, indeed were errorprone, remarkably so for an Italian team with the traditional philosophy which dictates that

nothing. Both goals by Borussia's lethal attacker Karlheinz Riedle, that stunned Juventus in the space of four minutes on the half-hour, came from corner kicks. Both involved lax

While neutrals may smile at the further corruption of the cup formats for next season for commercial expediency whereby, for instance, Germany will have three teams in the competition - there was satisfaction, indeed pleasure, in seeing form confounded. Juventus have only themselves to blame. Borussia, though having let the Bundesliga title slip

the first priority is to concede away, were straightforward op-

Often it is detrimental to the game's reputation when the better team loses, the way Barcelona did against Steaua Bucharest in 1986. When legitmate football qualities, such as hindsight? The manner of their Borussia's, are the cause, there is the fun of surprise. Riedle's finishing, and the shrewd, practical direction from midfield by Andreas Möller - whose penalty put paid to England in the semi-final of Euro 96 - made this one of the better finals.

Yet what will Marcello Lippi, Juve's coach, and Ciro Ferrara and Paolo Montero, his central defenders, be thinking with David Milne in Munich reflects on the lessons to be learned from the European Cup final

defeat was as uncharacteristic as a good German sporting For the first half-hour, what

had been considered inevitable now looked inevitable. Juventus's midfield quartet of Angelo Di Livio, Zinedine Zidane, Didier Deschamps and Vladimir Jugovic were extending Matthias Sammer and his markers, Jürgen Kohler and

Martin Kree, to the limits. A chas a third attacker for the secgoal had to come. And did not. ond half in place of Sergio Porinstead, the Italian defence

suddenly went to pieces. The first of two corners by Möller from the left was poorly cleared. driven back in and Riedle, though closely attended, was allowed to squeeze the ball home. Within minutes, the next corner, needlessly conceded by Montero, went unchallenged in the air and Riedle was allowed to score with a fearsome header. The Italians looked as startled and dismayed as a middle-aged

man caught naked on the beach. From that point Juventus never recovered, even though Alessandro Del Piero, coming

rini at full-back, did reduce the margin midway through the second half. Within five minutes Borussia again delivered a knockout filow, Lars Ricken, having half a minute previous ly replaced Stéphane Chapuisat, lobbing the ball over Angelo Pe-

ruzzi with his first touch. For English students of the game, which include Wilkinson, there was a further lesson, one that helps explain the failure in recent seasons of English teams in European competition. Both Germans and Italians were outstanding at shielding the ball when under pressure at close

quarters, and likewise were cleverer than the majority of those in the Premiership who happened to be born English, at turning at speed.

The other evident quality was the ability to intercept rather than to tackle, the technique which prevents a defender committing himself, sometimes unnecessarily. The introduction of so many for-eigners into the English game may be an attraction to season ticket holders, yet it is helping to camouflage the true state of home technique, which is so far from what it might be. And, on this evidence, needs to be for English clubs to prosper.

#### Ronaldo burns his bridges at Barcelona

The Ronaldo saga dragged on yesterday when the Brazilian. striker criticised the Barcelona president, Jose Luis Nunez, and said that he will be leaving

"Everything Nunez has said is a lie and we no longer need to negotiate with them," Ronal do said. "He tells me one thing and my agents something else., He has been cheating us for seven month. It's sad, but I'm

This explanation came after 24 hours of negotiations, in which Ronaldo's agents appeared to accept, and then pull out of, a deal to improve his contract. One of the sticking points in the negotiations was whether a bonus payment of two billion pesetas (£8.75m) should be paid in Spain or in a tax haven.

A club spokesman said yesterday that the talks had broken. down but added that Ronaldo remained a Barcelona player. It is assumed that Internazionale. will shortly pay the 4.5 billion pesetas (almost £20m) necessary to free Ronaldo from his existing contract, although Lazio have upped the ante in their ef-

Sergio Cragnotti, the Lazio owner, has reportedly offered an. annual salary of more than £3m, comfortably more per year than Ronaldo has demanded.

Massimo Moratti, the Internazionale president, said yesterday that they had made an offer to sign Ronaldo but stopped short of confirming a deal had been done.

"Our offer for Ronaldo is there and they know that well. Our offer is still there and I think it has been carefully studied." Moratti said.

"At this moment there is no negotiator for Inter in Barcelona and in any case I want to leave the lad alone until after he has played for Brazil," he

Barcelona's spokesman said Ronaldo would not play again for the club this season. The Brazil striker will therefore sit out the Spanish Cup final against Real Betis on 28 June as well as three league games he had been expected to miss because of international duty. At, present, he is in Norway for

Brazil's game tomorrow. The 20-year-old has scored 34 goals this season and is considered one of the main reasons Barcelona won the European Cup-Winners' Cup, stand second in the league, two points behind Real Madrid, and have reached the final of the Spanish Cup.

Nunez has taken the news of Ronaldo's departure philosophically. "We've saved our-selves 15 billion pesetas over 10 years," he said.

Speculation over Ronaldo's replacement has already begun, with Alan Shearer heading the list of candidates. Shearer displaced Ronaldo as the world's most expensive player last summer, when he moved from Blackburn Rovers to Newcastle United for £15m, beating

Another Brazilian in critical mood was Ronaldo's team-mate Giovanni, who attacked Bobby "He's an old man who hasn't got

The former England manager, who has dropped Giovanni several times this season. responded by telling Giovanni to think before he spoke.

# Ramprakash leads the centurions

Cricket

HENRY BLOFELD reports from Lord's Middlesex 400-2 v Northamptonshire

The atmosphere here was a mixture of Revolution and Old Boys' Day for Middlesex. The new captain, Mark Ramprakash, won a most important toss and showed off his new sense of responsibility by scoring 109 not out; the newcomer, Jacques Kallis, hit 121 for his first Cham-

Mike Gatting, freed at last from the burdensome job, was positively skittish in reaching 102 not out; and the old faithful, John Emburey, was an energetic 12th man for Northamptonshire.

This has been an eventful week at the game's headquarters. One could not help wondering if there was not more to Gatting's resignation than met the eye. The country's longest-serving county captain surely does not resign on an impulse six weeks into a new season after 13 years

#### Millns makes point of bowling Atherton

JON CULLEY

Lancashire 365-9 v Leicestershire

David Millns believes that as the most potent new ball partner-ship in the Britannic Assurance County Championship, he and his Leicestershire colleague, Alan Mullally, ought to be opening the bowling for England. They have 37 Championship wickets between them this season but their joint selection seems an unlikely eventuality.

Mulially, after an unhappy time in Žimbabwe and New Zealand last winter, has slipped down the pecking order, although being a left-armer remains an advantage. Millns, the pace and none too worried now 32, while not having the about taking risks. best of luck with injuries, has not appeared even close since touring Australia with England A

four years ago. Still, there is no harm in trying to make a point, as was their intention yesterday against a Lancashire team led by Michael Atherton. To a degree, they succeeded, especially Mullally, whose four wickets included the one they both wanted most.

Atherton was out to comfortably the best ball of the day. a delivery that darted back to beat the England captain's defensive bat and clip the off bail. If a howler wants to make an impression with one of those in whose hands his future lies.

there is no better way to do so. That breakthrough thwarted what had looked a potentially long partnership with John Crawley following Lancashire's early loss of Jason Gallian, who

edged Millns to first slip. On a friendly, easy-paced pitch, opting to bat first seemed the right decision. Indeed, by the close Atherton, standing in as captain in the continued absence of Mike Watkinson after Wasim Akram cried off with a shoulder injury, was vindicated by the scoreboard, although the route by which Lancashire reached their satisfactory position was certainly not the intended one.

At one time, Leicestershire were well on top, their oppo-nents reduced to a miserable 179 for 6. Lancashire's middle order, for reasons not immediately evident, batted as if it were a cup game, intent on forcing

However, the assumption that Lancashire, bottom of the table, would now succumb meekly to the champions proved incorrect as three innings of substance defeated Leicestershire's ambitions. That one of them should come from the hat of Graham Lloyd was no surprise. The son of the England coach made 82 with typical briskness, off 101 balls, before falling to a sharp piece of wicketkeeping by Paul Nixon.

When Peter Martin was eighth out at 264, it still seemed Leicestershire would soon be batting but Warren Hegg and Glen Chapple had other ideas, the former stubbornly surviving for al-most three hours for his 58 as his partner took advantage of some drooping spirits in the most productive partnership of the day.

Dennis Lillee and Jeff Thomson, Australia's ferocious fast bowlers of the Seventies, were here on Wednesday night, com-pared by Michael Parkinson, and their conversational bouncers were, by all accounts, a delight. Later the same evening, the staff apparently discovered some uninvited guests under the cov-ers of today's pitch. Mercifully, no damage was done even if one or two evebrows were raised.

Under a cloudless sky, the ritch was a gem for batting. Just the easy flat surface an out-ofform side would dream about, with the added advantage of a short boundary on the Grand-

stand side of the ground. Middlesex were given a helping hand at the start by another of their old players, David Fol-lett who, after two seasons at Lord's, relocated to Northampton. His first ball went down the leg side for four wides, which in oday's currency adds six to the total, and his first over donated 17 to the Middlesex cause.

Kallis and Paul Weekes elped themselves and the 50 arrived in the eighth over. Follett was taken off after his first five overs had cost 44 and then an hour of vague reality returned. The 100 came in the 20th over and it was then rather a shock when, at 107, Weekes drove Kevin Curran to extra cover.

Ramprakash walked in briskly and batted at first like a man who had dreamt that he had been made captain of Middlesex and was trying to decide whether it had been a nightmare or not. His sixth ball brought a single to fine leg but he had to wait another

While Ramprakash's fluency gradually returned, Kallis drove, pulled and square cut his way to a century which came in 143 balls with 19 fours. He then became the second man to drive Curran to extra cover and Gatting strode cheerfully out to join his suc-The day now meandered

peacefully on, apart from the swarms of angry helicopters noisily guarding Bill Clinton at the LIS Ambassador's house in Regent's Park. With the Northamptonshire bowling amiably innocuous in the sunshine, Ramprakash's hundred arrived from 221 balls with six overs left, Gatting's - the 92nd of his career - with two left. Neither was at his best, and they did not have to be, but they remain to take Middlesex maybe to 600 or more today.



Moles heads prolific day for openers

the players' balcony at Lord's yesterday

ROUND-UP

against Hampshire first batting bonus points of the

Glamorgan's openers enjoyed themselves against Durham. Steve James hit a century before lunch and finished with 153 and Hugh Morris scored 135, his 51st first-class hundred. Adrian Dale added 73 as Glamorgan ended the day on 433 for 3.

## Nottinghamshire's hard graft

Kent 216 Nottinghamshire 39-1

Nick Knight eased the England selectors' worries with 81 Southampton yesterday. His overcome their injury problems. fellow Warwickshire opener. Andy Moles, almost batted throughout the day but was finally dismised for 164. They shared a partnership of 154 and then Moles and David Hemp (76no) out on 184 as the visitors reached 351 for 2 to secure their

The Yorkshire opener. Michael Vaughan, stood firm with an unbeaten 92 as Yorkshire struggled to 158 for 5 in reply to Essex's 297 in which Darren Gough took 5 for 74.

reports from Trent Bridge

Nottinghamshire had to dig

Having conjured up two memorable wins from highly unlikely scenarios, they had probably started to think nothing was impossible, but not everything went according to plan and Kent took most of the kudos for some controlled bowling and imaginative captaincy.

Not many sides down the years have emerged with such satisfaction after losing the toss on a sweltering day at this ground, but there was more than a tinge of green to the pitch, the ball swung just enough and Nottinghamshire, of course, were without their specialist opening pair. Tim

Robinson and Paul Pollard. Thus their game plan would have been to try to get through the morning session with the minimum of mishaps in the ilously close to lbw when he back for a few days.

hope of prospering later; it made for a certain amount of gritty, almost old-fashioned, cricket with Kent often giving it a bit of width and Matthew Dowman, particularly, taking no liberties around his off-stump.

Alas for Nottinghamshire. it deep again yesterday to try to all went a bit awry. Ashley Metcalfe perished to a flat-footed square cut, Dowman met a good one from Matthew Fleming when he was starting to look established, and the loss of three wickets in five overs to Martin McCague and Mark Ealham sent them scurrying

back to the drawing-board. Graeme Archer, with only 44 runs behind him in seven Championship innings, grafted hard and began to time some frontfoot drives. But he found it a different game when McCague came back for a quickish spell and prised him out with one that bounced and left him.

That episode apart, Kent probably had the ideal bowlers for these conditions in Ealham and Fleming, who moved the hall around more than anyone. Nocl Gie must have been perinswinger before Ealham removed him and Paul Johnson in successive overs. Kent caught pretty well every-

thing on offer, particularly Steve Marsh, and David Fulton held on to a one-handed effort at short leg to remove Wayne Noone. At 122 for 6, though, the teenager Usman Afzaal contributed his fourth half-century in five innings with a maturity beyond his years. A lively left-hander, he waits for the ball to come to him and appears to have the priceless gift of picking up its length early. Thus he has time to play his strokes and there were again many handsome ones, mostly played with the straightest of bats, until he became one of Marsh's six victims as he tried to steer Fleming to third man.

Dean Headley, the Kent fast bowler, was vesterday virtually ruled out of the first Cornhill Test against Australia at Edgbaston, which starts next Thursday. Headley, who dropped out of the Championship match at Trent Bridge, has been ordered to rest a ligament problem in his and down

this finds his

Ronaldo's fee by £2.5m. Robson, Barcelona's coach a clue." Giovanni said.

**Britannic Assurance County Championship** 

Essex v Yorkshire ILFORD: Yorkshire (4pts), with five first innings wickets standing, are first innings wickets standing, are 139 runs behind Essex (4). Today: Essex won toss

ESSEX - First Innings G Law c Lehmann o Stemp ... P M Such b Gough Extras (lb11 nb12) .... Total (62.5 overs). Fail: 1-11 2-71 3-97 4-149 5-151 6-151 7-161 8-184 9-263. Bowling: Gough 15.5-3-74-5; Silverwood 6-0-33-0; Hartley 4-0-26-0; Stemp 22-4-79-3; White 11-3-54-2;

YORKSHIRE - First Innings

M D Moxon b Rott .

B Parker run out ... White c Grayson b Such †R J Blakey not out ...... Extras (lb1 w2 nb8) ...... Total (for 5, 39 overs) 158
Fall: 1-2 2-45 3-58 4-58 5-67.
To bat: D Gough, R D Stemp, P J Hartley, C E W Silverwood.

Bowling: Not: 10-3-43-2; Cowan 3-0-12-0; Such 16-5-49-2; Grayson 4-0-16-0; Iran: 2-0-23-0; S G Law norgan v Durham CARDIFF: Glamorgan (4pts) are 433 for 3 in their first innegs

against Durham (1). Today: 11.0. morgan won toss GLAMORGAN - First Innings S P James c and b Boiling H Morris c Morris b Collingwood 135 A Dale low b Walker ... P A Cottey not out . Extras (b3 lb7 nb6). Fall: 1-229 2-348 3-408. To bat: R D B Croft, †A D Shaw, Wagar Younis, S D Thomas, S L Watkin, D A

Cosker, Bowling (to date): Brown 22-1-80-

0; Foster 17-3-92-0; Walker 21-4-76-1; Boiling 26-4-82-1; Collingwood 11-1-51-1; Cox 9-1-42-0. DURHAM: JJB Lews, PD Collingwood, JE Morns, NJ Speak, \*D C Boon, †M P Speight, M J Foster, J Boiling, S J E Brown, D M Cox, A Walker. Umpires: A A Jones and B J Meyer.

Hampshire v Warwickshire SOUTHAMPTON: Warwickshire (4pts) are 351 for 2 in their first innings against Hampshire (0). Today: 11.0. Warwickshire won toss WARWICKSHIRE - First Innings

\*N V Krught c Aymes b Bovill ......81 A J Moles c Hayden b Kenway ...168 D L Hemp not out ...... G Welch not out ..... Extras (lb4 w8 nb8) . Total (for 2, 106 overs). Fall: 1-154 2-338. To bat: D P Ostler, T L Penney, D R Brown, N M K Smith, A F Giles, †T Frost, D A Altree Bowling (to date): Connor 18-3-69-0; Bowli 22-3-87-1; James 10-2-31-0; Hayden 3-0-19-0; Maru 25-2-73-0; Udal 25-8-60-0; White 2-0-3-0; Ken-

HAMPSHIRE: M. L. Hayden, G. W. White, K. D. James, \*R. A. Smith, W. S. Kendall, D. A. Kenway, †A. N. Aymes, S.

D Udal, R J Maru, C A Connor, J N B pires: JW Holder and A G T White-

Leicestershire v Lancashire LEICESTER: Lancashire (4pts) are 365 for 9 in their first imings against Leicestershire (4). Today: 11.0. Lancashire won toss LANCASHIRE - First Innings

J E R Gallian c Johnson b Milns .12 \*M A Atherton b Mullally ......24 b Johnson .. G D Lloyd st Nixon b Pierson ..... I D Austin c Johnson b Mullally .....9
G Yates c Wells b Mullally ......0

G Chapple not out ....... G Keedy not out ...... Extras (b6 lb5 w2 nb30) .... 18-4-34-1; Johnson 16-0-76-2; Wells

LEICESTERSHIRE: V J Wells, D L Mad-

dy, B F Smith, \*J J Whitaker, N C Johnson, A Habib, †P A Nixon, D J Millns,

G J Parsons, A R K Pierson, A D Mul-Umpkres: B Leadbeater and R Pakmer Middlesex v Northants

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

LORO'S: Middlesex (4pts) are 400 for 2 in their first linkings against Northamptonshire (0). Today: 11.0. Middlesex won toss MIDDLESEX - First Innings J H Kallis c Snape b Curran ...121 P N Weekes c Snape b Curran .41

M R Ramprakash not out ......109 \*M W Getting not out ...... Extras (lb7 w10 nb10) ..... Total (for 2, 104 overs)..... Fall: 1-107 2-219. To bat: J C Pooley, †K R Brown, S P Moffat, R L Johnson, J P Hewitt, A R C Fraser, P C R Turnell,

Bowling (to date): Taylor 27-9-67

0: Follett 12-0-77-0; Capel 9-1-62-

0; Curran 18-5-47-2; Penberthy 17-2-53-0; Snape 14-2-59-0; Bai-NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: D J Roberts. R R Montgomerie, \*R J Balley, K M Curran, A L Penberthy, D J Capel, T C Walton, †D Ripley, J N Snape, D Umpires: R Julian and J D Bond.

Nottinghamshire v Kent TRENT BRIDGE: Kent (4pts), with nine first-innings wickets standing, are 177 runs behind Nottinghamshire (1). Nottinghamshire won toss

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE - First Innings A A Metcelife c Marsh b Phillips ....? M P Dowman c Marsh b Fleming 21 G F Archer c Marsh b McCague ...49 N A Gie Ibw b Falham Johnson c Ward b Ealham .... Extras (b1 lb10 w2 nb2) ..... 

Bowling: McCague 16-3-46-2; Phillips 11-6-21-1; Fleming 28.5-9-51-5; Ealham 20-6-54-2; Strang 14-4-33-KENT - First innings D P Fulton not out . M J Walker c Dowman b Bowen ...8

B J Phillips not out ...

Total (for 1, 12 overs)

To bat: TR Ward, A P Wells, GR Cow-Strang, \*tS A Marsh, M J McCague. Bowling (to date): Evans 2-0-8-0; Franks 5-0-16-0; Bowen 4-0-15-1; Bates 1-1-0-0. Umpires: A Clarkson and D R Shep-

are 270 for 6 in their first innings against Somerset (2). Today: 11.0. Worcestershire won toss Worcestershire - First Innings T'S Curts c Harden b Rose .....101 W P C Weston c Bowler b Rose ...13 G A Hick c Lathwell b Caddick ....14 

Worcestershire v Somerset

WORCESTER: Worcestershire (2pts)

V S Solanki not out . \*†S J Rhodes not out ..... Extras (lb20 nb2) ...... Total (for 6, 104 overs) \_\_\_\_\_270 Fall: 1-35 2-61 3-101 4-230 5-245 To bat: S R Lampitz, P J Newport, A

Sheriyer.
Bowling (to date): Caddick 23-8-492; Shine 13-5-25-0; Dimond 9-2-260; Rose 20-5-44-3; Ahmed 27-10-66-0; Burns 10-2-40-1; Bowler SOMERSET: \*P D Bowler, M N Lathwell, P.C. L. Holloway, R.J. Harden, M. Dimond, M. Burns, G.D. Rose, †R.J. Turn-er, Mushtaq Ahmed, A.R. Caddick, K. Umpires: J D Bond and D J Constant.

Tetley's Challenge Series (Final day of three)

ucestershire y Australia BRISTOL: Match drawn. AUSTRALIA - First innings 249 (S R Waugh 92, M E Waugh 66; J ) Lewis 4-89).

GLOUCESTERSHIRE - First innings 360 (N J Trainor 121, R J Cunliffe 61; S K Warne 4-97), AUSTRALIA - Second innings vernight: 43 for 0) T G Elliott Ibw b Smith \*M A Taylor lbw b Ball ..... Lianger not out .... M E Waugh not out ...... Extras (b6 lb2 w1) .....

Total (for 4 dec, 109 overs) .....354
Falt: 1-62 2-254 3-262 4-269.
Did not bat: S R Waugh, M G Bevan,
11 A Healy, M S Kasprowicz, G D McGrath Bowling: Smith 13-5-18-2; Davis 29-6-101-0; Lewis 18-5-59-1; Ball 28-9-89-1; Alleyne 8-2-25-0; Trainor 3-2-8-0; Hancock 5-0-26-0; Russell 3-0-15-0; Young 2-0-6-0 Umpires: G I Burgess and P Adams.

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (Second day of three, 11.0 today): Ashford: Kent 230 (J H Baldock 77no; K A Par-Kent 230 U H Baldock 77no; K A Parsons 5-39) and 184 for 4 (N J Llong 53no); Somerset 286 (K A Parsons 52; E J Stanford 4-72). Hinckley: Lecestershire 256 (D Williamson 83, J Ormond 60: K P Sheeraz 4-61, R Turneil 4-58) and 203 for 1 (I Sutcliffe 74no, G ) MacWilliam 110 no); Gloucestershire 283 (M G N Windows 89, R C J Williams 62. (M G N Windows 89, R C J Williams 62. Mitton Keynes (Campbell Park): Worcestershire 32 (S A J Bosweit 4. 56) and 139 for 8 (I Dawood 53); Northamptonshire 207 (R J Chapman 6-87). Knowie and Dorndige: Warwickshire 318 for 8 dec (D A T Dalton 54, S McDonald 52no) and 95 for 1 (W G Khan 56no); Hampshire 301 for 2 dec (J S Laney 180no, G R Treagus 60). Elland: Essex 240 (D D J Robinson 109; A C Monts 4-35) and 16 for 1; Yorkshire 328 for 7 dec (R A Ker 1; Yorkshire 328 for 7 dec (R A Kettleborough 117, M J Wood 60).

Starting today

(First day of three, 11.30) THE PARKS: Oxford University v Sus-

> TODAY'S NUMBER

> > **55**

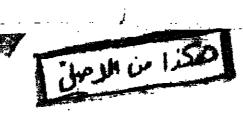
The number of days in this year's close season for some of Europe's leading football clubs, who will be back in action on 23 July in the newly-introduced preliminary round of the 1997-98 European Cup.

ON WEDNESDAY IT WAS THEM. Draw date: 28/5/97. The winning numbers: 3, 19, 24, 25, 36, 48. Bonus number: 17.

Total Sales: £25,129.823. Prize Fund: £11,308,420 (45% of ticket sales). CATEGORY NO. OF WINNERS TOTAL EACH TIER Match 6 (Jackpot) £925,659 £3,702,636 March 5 plus bonus ball £1.139,265 £75.951 Match 5 Match 4 22.251 Match 3 £4,187,960 418.796 441.463 £11,299.252

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Martina Hingis, the No 1 seed, struggles to reach a forehand during her 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 victory over Gloria Pizzichini at Roland Garros yesterda

# Hingis survives some pinch-hitting

Tennis

JOHN ROBERTS reports from Roland Garros

Gloria Pizzichini's surname translates as "little pinches", which is a gross underestimation of the effect the diminutive Italian had on Martina Hingis in the second round of the French Open here in Paris yesterday. Big kick in the derrière would be more appropriate.

The youngest ever world No 1, lacking her usual zest, mobility and timing, and lulled, per-haps, by the fact that she had swatted Pizzichini for the loss of only one game in Tokyo in Jan-uary, came close to losing for the

first time this year. Pizzichini double-faulted on a game point which would have stretched her lead to 6-3, 5-3. "I was too afraid to win the match." Hingis recovered to win, 3-6, 6-1, 6-1. "When she made the double-fault, I said to myself: 'Thank God'," the lo-year-old said.

Venus Williams also has cause to remember a double-fault, although in the 16-year-old American's case it brought her first appearance in a Grand Slam championship to an unhappy close. Williams was defeated by the experienced Nathalie Tauziat, of France, 5-7, 6-3, 7-5.

The double-fault, which came on Tauziat's third match point, was not an isolated incident. Williams had committed a dozen of them previously. Indeed. neither player could be said to have enriched another sunny afternoon, each contributing 51 errors to the performance. Hingis avoided the indignity

of becoming the earliest top

Second round: C Woodruff (US) bt

N Lapentti (Ecu) 6-4 5-7 3-6 6-4

6-1; R KRAJICEK (Neth) bt B

Ulihrach (Cz Rep) 6-2 3-6 6-2 6-3; M Larsson (Swe) bt F MAN-

TILLA (Sp) 6-2 6-4 3-6 6-3; W FER-

REIRA (SA) bt R Carretero (Sp) 7-6

4-6 6-1 2-6 6-4: S Simian (Fr) bt

J Krocsko (Hun) 6-3 6-3 7-6; P

seeded players in capitals

Men's singles

seed to depart the women's singles here in the open era, and instead extended her winning sequence to 36 (including two in the Fed Cup and four in the Hopman Cup). This places her second to Steffi Graf, who strung together 45 victories at the start of 1987.

The third round brings together Hingis and Anna Kournikova, 16 on Saturday week, the day of the women's final. It will be their first match on the professional tour, Hingis having defeated the Russian twice in junior competition. 6-0, 6-0 on the second occasion.

bridge (Aus) 6-4 7-5 6-2; A Boetsch (Fr) bt M Ondruska (SA)

6-3 6-2 6-1; D Norman (Bel) bt S

Stolle (Aus) 5-7 6-4 7-6 6-3; M

CHANG (US) bt J Golmard (Fr) 6-2 6-3 3-6 6-2; M Woodforde

(Aus) bt A Volkov (Rus) 7-6 6-3

7-5; G Blanco (Sp) bt M Gustafs-

son (Swe) 6-4 4-6 6-4 7-6; A COS-

TA (Sp) bt A Pavel (Rom) 6-1 4-6

U-6 6-3 6-4: P Korda (Cz Red) bi

C Costa (Sp) 6-3 7-5 6-4; S

United States Open. "The score doesn't say any-

thing about that match," Kournikova insisted. "It was actually a good match. It just happened that she was also No 1 in the juniors. She was also first seed. I played very well, but she won all the important points. We are both playing different tennis now.

Koumikova, who defeated Italy's Sandra Cecchini yesterday, 6-2, 6-2, has scouted Hingis's opening matches, an impressive first-round win against Henrieta Nagyova, of retrieving a 1-3 deficit in the sec-

Women's singles

Second round: B SCHULTZ-MC-

Second round: B SCHULL2-MC-CARTHY (Neth) bt F Labat (Arg) 4-6 7-6 6-4; N Tauziat (Fr) bt V Williams (US) 5-7 6-3 7-5; M PIERCE (Fr) bt P Hy-Boulais (Can)

6-1 6-3; L Raymond (US) bt T

Tanasugam (Thal) 6-1 6-1; F Perfetti (It) bt L Ghirardi Rubbi (Fr)

Cecchini (It) 6-2 6-1; M HINGIS

in the second round of the Solvakia, 6-0, 6-2, and the open- ond. The Swiss, irritated by her ing set of the faltering performance against Pizzichini.

"She [Martina] was not pre-pared, I think," Kournikova said. "She was not thinking about her opponent. Martina's had an injury and an operation. It's hard to say how our match will go, but I'm going to take it as a normal match."

Pizzichini was unable to achieve that at the crucial moment. Before her capitulation, however, she had stunned Hingis by winning the opening four games of the first set and

surgery following her fall from a horse in April? "Sometimes, of course, I'm a little scared that YESTERDAY'S RESULTS FROM THE FRENCH OPEN I don't run for the drop-shots (Japan) 6-3 6-0; B PAULUS (Aut) that much, or from one side to bt Wang Shi-Ting (Tai) 6-2 6-2; M SELES (US) bt S Pitkowski (Fr) the other. I have a little fear, yes. 6-3 7-5; A SANCHEZ-VICARIO (Sp) bt A Sugiyama (Japan) 6-3 6-1; N Zvereva (Bela) bt M Lamarre

"I played very well in the first match, but I was a bit stressed afterwards because of the nerves. Yestenday in the doubles (Fr) 6-4 7-5; S Farina (It) bt P lwith Arantxa Sanchez Vicariol Begerow (Ger) 6-4 6-2; D Van I didn't play very well. And to-day I thought the match was goday I thought the match was go-ing to be easier. But I don't up for the inadequacies of nounced his retirement from Cristea (Rom) 6-0 6-4; M J FERthink the knee affected my per-(Swit) bt G Pizzichini (It) 3-6 6-4 NANDEZ (US) bt A Glass (Ger) 6-1; K Po (US) bt Y Yoshida 6-1 6-0. formance."

own shortcomings, threw her

racket on a couple of occasions.

Hingis, asked what happened in the first set, said, "I just

played like...", checking herself before adding, "I don't want to

She continued: "Maybe I

took it a little easy because the

first match was more difficult

than it looked. It took a lot of

power out of me. I just couldn't

hit the ball in the first set. I

And what about the rehabil-

itation of her left knee after

couldn't find my timing."

say a bad word."

# Corry one of England's six new faces

**Rugby Union** 

ANDREW BALDOCK reports from Buenos Aires

England will field six new caps when they tackle Argentina in Saturday's first Test at the Ferro Karril Oeste Stadium. The biggest surprise is the selection of the Bristol captain, Martin

Corry, as blindside flanker ahead of Ben Clarke. Clarke, the pack leader, switches to Jim Mallinder, the Sale full-

back, and the Wasps centre, Nick Greenstock, plus the Bath forwards Kevin Yates and Martin Haag complete the half dozen. They take the total of newcomers picked by Jack Rowell since Phil de Glanville replaced Will Carling as England captain last November, to 17 in seven Tests. Behind the scrum, balf-backs

Mike Catt and Kyran Bracken are reunited 18 months after being dropped following defeat by the world champions South Africa. It will be Bracken's first England start since then.

Only De Glanville, Jon Sleightholme, Catt and Clarke

Wales and landed a third successive Five Nations Triple Crown 11 weeks ago.

Rowell confirmed that Corry had forced his way in with a fine performance against Argentina on Tuesday, changing the back row thinking. "Martin is a player who was very close to selection, but that performance clinched the deal for him," the England manager said. "He is like a barn

door, a very powerful man." Corry, who is being cheered on in Argentina by his parents, said his Test call-up had come as a complete surprise. "When Jack told me, I didn't quite hear what he said, but once it sunk in it was a marvellous feeling, Corry said.
Rowell admitted that choos-

ing the backs had been much more straightforward and he was looking for them to show their pace against a strong Ar-

Bellitting: Steel Busines Aires erdsyt: J Mallinder (Sale); J Steighti (Bath), N Greenstock (Wasps), Glawwile (Bath, capt), A Adebayo (Ba Catt (Bath), K Bracken (Sarecers); K Carti, (Sem), Nescount (Sereces); N. (Sarti, P. Greening (Solocuster), D. Ga. B.coester), M. Hang (Bath), N. Redman M. Corry (Bristol), T. Diprose (Sarace Clarker (Richmond), Replacement Mapletoft (Goucester), M. Allen (North

#### **Humphreys loses** Welsh captaincy

strong Wales squad on their sixmatch tour of North America in July. The 24-year-old flanker takes over the captaincy from his Cardiff club-mate, Jonathan

Humphreys.
The squad includes nine uncapped players for a threeweek trip that includes two Tests against the United States and one against Canada. Kevin Bowring, the Welsh coach, believes the tour will play

a major part of the development process for the 1999 World Cup and hopes the change in captaincy will allow Humphreys to return to his best form. "Jonathan has shown great

courage and passion playing for Wales and outstanding commitment as captain. However. the responsibility of captaincy has affected his own game. Bowring said.

stop Wales losing at all costs. injury.

Gwyn Jones will lead the 30- This has affected his individual performance and sometimes his decision-making on the field.

"Without the responsibility of captaincy I feel he will regain his confidence and further develop his all-round game."

■ Ireland A turned in an en-

couraging second-half display against Bay of Plenty but still slumped to a third consecutive defeat, this time by 52-39, on their trip to New Zealand. Richard Loe, the former All

others and done his utmost to rugby due to a serious neck

#### Up and down Broadhurst welcomes overdue upturn

Rafter (Aus) bt F Fontang (Fr) 6-3 BRUGUERA (Sp) bt D Van Schep-

6-4 6-3: H Arazi (Mor) bt T Wood- pingen (Neth) 6-2 6-3 6-3.

11.

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هريما المراجي Paul Broadhurst boosted his Ryder Cup hopes by taking the lead in the first round of the Deutsche Bank Open in Hamburg yesterday with a four under par 68.

The 31-year-old is amious to make the team at Valderrama in September and the £125,000 first prize would virtually assure him of automatic selection.

"While I have been struggling, a lot of other guys have been making money and to get into

well again," he said. "It's very important for me to make the side and if I do not get in this year I shall feel as if I have blown it."

Broadhurst is currently 10th in the Cup table and of the six men above him who are competing at Hamburg, only Miguel Angel Martin, with a 69 to lie joint second with Barry Lane, and Alberto Binaghi, improved their prospects.

Broadhurst admitted his form was a big improvement on his recent displays. "I finished second in Cannes last month but

the team I have to start playing I wasn't even driving well there and that's been my biggest problem," he said.

Since then I've played four tournaments, missed the cut in two of them and didn't play well in the other two. But today I made a few good up-and-downs early on and with my short game being in good shape I began to play solidly."

Broadhurst had only 27 putts and, starting at the 10th, had birdies at the 13th, 15th, second, third and fourth with only one bogey, at the 18th where he three-putted

DELITSCHE BANK OPEN (Hamburg) Leading first-round scores (GB or in unless stated; GB P Broadhurst. 69 A Branghi (It); B Lane; M-A Martin (Spein). 70 S Hurley; R Wessels (SA); E Canonica (It); R McGarlane; R Chapmar; D Robertson; R Goosen (SA); M Gronberg (Swe); D Carter; T Johnstone (Zim); J Robson. 71 N Fasth (Swe); S Bottomley; S Webster; P Curry; B Hughes (Aus); P Mitchell; B Langer (Ger); C Suneson (Spein); I Garrido (Sp); M Hallberg (Swe); V Phillips. 72 M Besanceney (Fri; M Olander (Swe); P McGinley; M Mouland; R Russell; S Grappasonni (It); R Drummond; G Clark; M Mackerzie; T Bjorn (Den); J Sandelin (Swe); S Luria (Sp); M Jorzon (Swe); D Cole (Aus); P Hedbiom (Swe); R Boxall; R Davis (Aus); G Brand jn; B Truning (Den). 73 J Warde (Aus); M McLean; A Hurster; R Claydon; K Vaimota (Fin); S Henderson; G J Brand; A Cabrera (Arg); J Spence; A Forsbrand (Swe); H Clark; D Howell; M Davis; R Burns; D

Smyth; D Gilford; K Tornori (Japan); P Linhart (Sp); G Emerson; P Affleck; A Cejka (Ger); R Rafferty. 74 M Lanner (Swe); J Bickerton; D Hospital (Sp); F Andersson (Swe); E Simsek (Ger); P Quinci (Swift; M-A Jimenez (Sp); D Clarke; R Lee; I Garbutt; G Orr; P Eales; B May (US); K Eriksson (Swe); J Hawkes (SA); A Rossert (Swift).

Roost (Bel) bt E Gagliardi (Swit)

Ian Woosnam marred an otherwise solid round with a three-putt bogey on the final hole to return a one-under-par 71 in the Hyundai Motor Masters in Seoul yesterday. That leaves him three shots behind three South Koreans. Sandy Lyle is three shots further back

#### Sixsmith back to bolster Britain BITT COTMITT

Jane Sixsmith is the only addition to the England squad which

won the recent Five Nations tournament in Vancouver for the Champions Trophy, which starts in the Berlin Olympic Stadium on Sunday when England will represent Great Britain.

Sixsmith, resting from the international arena since Atlanta, comes in for 17-year-old Carol Voss who was not available because of exams.

The going in Berlin will be mare for the young defenders tough for the young, relatively inexperienced England side. They open their campaign with a game against the Nether-

lands, who pipped Great Britain to the bronze medal in Atlanta after a penalty shoot-out. The Dutch have just won a threematch series against the Koreans 1-0.

Britain's next two games, against the Olympic silver medallists Korea on Monday and then on Wednesday against gold medallists Australia, could well be something of a night-

Both countries have high levels of skill, fitness and speed and play all-out attacking hockey. After Wednesday's game the pressure could ease a little with game against Germany, wh only managed sixth place in A

lanta, and the United State

whom England beat 4-2 at Mil

Whom England Deat 4-2 at Minton Keynes last Sunday.
GREAT BRITAIN SQUAD (Champions Trophy, Berlin, starting Sanday); R Devices, 3 Stranks, R Bowden, P Miller, J Mould tall Balsam Leicesten, R Brown, J Santh, L Copeland tall Stough, T Catles, L Newcombe, C Reid (all Highard), J Employ Carterbury, D Marston-Sauth (Chart, L Wright (Otton & West Warweks).

#### Harris finds his niche

Rughy League

lestyn Harris plays against his old team-mates for the first time since his club record transfer to Leeds earlier this season when Warrington visit Headingley tonight, writes Dave Hadfield. Harris left his only other professional club after a prolonged dispute and said yesterday: "It is a big match for me after everything at Warrington." The Great Britain interna-

tional stand-off has been a revelation since crossing the Pennines. His personal form and his ability to bring others into the game have been major factors in Leeds' climb up the Super League table, where they now stand second to Bradford. albeit seven points behind. The Warrington coach, Dar-

ryl Van de Velde, admits to wondering whether he could have retained a player he greatly addon's Martin Offiah.

mires had he arrived at the club a couple of weeks earlier. As it was, Harris was past the

point of no return and Van de Velde has since used a variety of players in the stand-off role, none of whom has handled it with the aplomb Harris has shown at Leeds.

Wigan will still be without Terry O Connor against Paris St-Germain in one of the three other Super League matches tonight. Their coach. Eric Hughes, retains the side that beat St Helens this week.

Saints, meanwhile, will be without both Andy Northey and Ian Pickavance for Sunday's trip to Halifax. Pickavance has been suspended for one match after his sending-off against Salford last week, while Norther has failed in his appeal against a four-match ban for using his knees in a tackle on Lon-

Athletics INTERNATIONAL MEETING (Ostrans, Cz Rep, Wedt: Selected results: Meet: 800pr: 1 1 Vy-tra (Cz Rep) Iron 47.94sct 2 C Wenton (GB 1:4854, 110m tordes; 1 A Genza (Cuta) 13.25cct 21 Konat (Stoal) 13.34; 3 C Jack-son (GB) 13.47.

Badiminton

WORLD CHAMPONSHIPS (Gaussiaw) Men's
singles, second round; Huang Cha-Ch (Tai)
to Neitzesto Undon! 11.4 11.7; Han Jingae
(On th Astron Ston 11.0 11.6; Chaffun (Den)
to Park Im Hyur; (Ken 11.1 11.2; S Susarti Indon! in Chan (Han 11.1 11.1; Hen J Hyun
(Kon It Tindam Diargain (Tai) 11.1; Hen J Hyun
(Kon It Tindam Diargain (Tai) 11.1; Li Gen
Zinchao (Chi ir Mi Tareka (Japan) 11.5 11.0;
Zinchao (Chi ir Mi Tareka (Japan) 11.5 11.0;
Zinch Yang (Kr.) to J Methamato (Keth) 11.2 11.

R Zinch Yangong (Chi it Mi Sorensen (Den) 11.

12 11.3 11.3.

AMERICAN LEAGUE Boston 5 Chroago White Sox 3; Baharare 8 Detriot 1: New York Yankets 6 Tourto 4; Cleveland 10 Namiss Cay 3; Mar-reson 3 (Macallee 1; Anahem 14 Option 10; Septie 5 Teas 0. NATIONAL LEAGUE Patistumph 4 Cheago Cubs E. Cancartati 2 Philadelphia 0; New York Mets 7 Merceal 0.

Rasketball NBA Play-offs: Eastern Conference finals: Crossp 100 Mans 87 (Crossp sins best of

Evander Holyfield and Mike Tyson each will receive a guaranteed \$30m (£18,750,000) for their heavyweight titie remarch on 28 June at the MGM

SPORTING DIGEST Grand in Las Vegas. Promoter Don King said the two fighters will share in the receipts from pay-per-view television for the fight if the sales exceed a certain

number. He would not reveal that

Robbie Regan's first defence of his WBO bentamweight title against Colombia's mandatory chaflenger longs Julio, at the Cardiff Ice Rink on 21 June, has been Ubaldo "Uby" Sacco, the former World Boxing Association junior weiterweight champion from Argentina, died on Wednesday of meningitis. He was 41.

Cricket CTICHETE
RED STREPE CUP (Final day of four):
Bridgetown: Barbados 258 and 180 IP Walace
53: C Walsh 5-39; Jennaca 252 and 157 for 2
R Sammuels 90ns, J Adams 50nd, Jennadas won
by 8 wickets. St Georgie is, Brennadas Windustri
signals 446 and 177-9 declared U Sylvesser 5;
R King 5-43, M Nagarhouso 4-67; Cuyans 315
and 125 for 8 If Toucken 30: M Morgan 3-42).
Cogonia draw with the Windusen! Islands.

Gyerling
Giuseppe Di Grande gave the Mapei
team another stage victory in the Giro
d'Italia yesterday, which featured an intinguing head-to-head duel between the
overall leader, Pavel Tonkov, and Luc
Lebianc. Di Grande beat four other cyclists to the finish line of the Giro's 12th
leg after a steep, winding downhall not.
The Italian, a team-mate of Tonkov, completed the 2121cm (131.4 miles) route

brox boss Walter Smith, Smith has been

In 5 hours, 47 minutes, 14 seconds. Tonkov and France's Lebtanc were 12 seconds back, it was the fourth stage win for Mapel, following Gabnele Missegie's victory in Wednesday's 11th stage and Tonkov's two early triumphs. Bind bythula BNCs 12th stage (214km, from La Specie to Venusual Leading positiones: 1 G of Grande (th Mapel Str 47min 14sec; 2 M Semano (50) Nelme: 3 A Shefer (Kaz) Asso; 4 A Mercio: (Bel) Potz 5 L Pepon (th Ceramiche Refin ell same time; 6 W Beit (th) Bresclais + 12secs; 7 G Gunner (th Potz) 9 L Lebtanc (Fr) Potz; 9 I Gott (th) Second 10 P Rothov (Rus) Maper; 11.) Gonzalez (Col) Nelme al same time. Leading overall positiones: 3 fortice 37 A Noer Gent 2 Lebtanc +41sec; 3 Gott 1017; 4 A Noer umaning overan postaposis a 10160/5577 22mm Gesc: 2 Lebianc +41sec; 3 Goto 1:07; 4 A Noe' (N) Assos 1:49; 5 Piepok 2:37; 8 Shefer 2:49; 7 P Sanotielli (N) Rosiodo 2:51; 8 Di Grende 3:38; 8 G Smoru (n) Magalico 3:56; 10 Gueri-

3:58. 9 G Samon (In Integrated 3:50, 30 duel-ni 3:58.

MEDI LIBRE Third stage (1828on, St Chely d'Apcher to Ales, Pri: 1.1 L Brochard (Pri Pis-tria d'Ar Libran 7 Sec; 2.0 Gomes-Rodrigues (Spi Barreson: 3 B Hamburger (Dev) TWA: 4 I-C Robin (Pri US Possal Sanute same time: 5 A Casen-Adoeno (Sp) Barteson + Beer; 6 T Gouverou (Pri Bigmar Aufer 53 6:23; 7 A Barri (g) US Postal Sanuce 6:31; 8 R Alardag (Ber) Teleham; 9 A Telenus, (Red) (Eds) 15hr 13mon Sec; 2.1 Du-dous (Serif) Fastare 8:14; 8 B Vostkamp (Near) TVM 8:22; 4 G Torsching (Ger) Telehom 8:23: 5 A Vesquise (Lift) (Serin 8:26; 6 D Pissa (Pri Colside 8:26; 7 B Hamburger (Den) TVM 11:51: 8 A Questre-Normo (Sp) Barresto 12:23; 9 L Desblers (Fr) Coldes 18:26 10 L Gell (U) Bres-calet 18:44.

Football Rangers could meet Manchester Unitgranted a benefit match by the Scot-tish champions after an 11-year stay at the club. The 49-year-old manager led Rangers to their minth successive Premier Division crown this season to equal Celtic's achievement. On Tuesday it emerged he had signed a three-year contract extension. WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: European Cop Final: B Dommand 3 (Redie 29, 34, Rok-en 71) Juventus 1 (Del Piero 64). Azeri Cop Final (Baltud: Repaz Gêncê 1 (Mantanov 44) Khazri Busowia 0.

Colin Montgomerie has accepted a late invitation to play in next week's Com-paq European Grand Prx in Northum-berland, two days after his surprise withdrawal from the Tournament Players' Championship in Hamburg, Mont-gomerie, winner of the European Order of Merit for the last four years, pulled

WorkLD CHAMPIONSHIP (Kumamoto, Japan) Quarter-finalis: Hungay 26 loeland 25; Sweden 28 Spain 24; Russia 32 South Korea 15; Franca 22 Egypt 19.

out of the German event that started

yesterday because of personal reasons.

Rugby League

Dave Harrison, assistant coach at Hull KR until last week, has returned to the club to act as caretaker coach following the resignation of Steve Crooks.

Keith Robertson, the former Scotland international, yesterday was named as Metrose's new director of coaching on a part-time basis. The 44-times capped Robertson, who shared in Scodand's 1984 Grand Slam success, takes up

Rugby Union

LEON CIRCUIT SIGN SUCCESS, Takes up the post after recently concentrating more on the political than playing side of Scottish rugby. He will be assisted by the former Melrose scrum-half Alan Tait.

Franziska Van Almsick, the world champion, will be out for the rest of the sea-son following a motorcycle accident that has left her needing an operation of her hand. Van Almsick was involved in a collision with a car as she rode her mother's motorcycle through a Berlin

Matthew Syed (Richmond Surrey) and usa Lomas (Luton) have retarned the top positions in the England ranking lists published yesterday. Chesterfield's Alan Cooke has moved from third to No 2. eapfrogging the Isle of Wight's Carl Pre an, in the men's list. The England European Youth Championship squad (to be held in in the Czech Republic in July) will be announced next Tuesday, 3 June.

Tim Henman, hoping to regain his best form now that the grass court season is starting, will play two exhibition matches at Surbition next week. The British No. 1 will be joined by three times. Wimbledon champion Bons Becker on the Friday and Saturday of the Surrey grass court championships, which are

grass court championships, which a being staged from 3-7 June. TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football at GPS sted

Rugby League STONES SUPER LEAGUE (7.30): Leeds v War rugton; London v Shaffeld: Wigon v Pans; Oldhan v Castleford. ENTERNATIONAL MATCH: BARLA Great Britain ( France B (at Bouleast), Hull, 7.30).

**Speedway** 

Speedway
7.30 unless stated
FLITE LEAGUE: Relie Vue v Easthourne, Petertoorogh v Bradford.
PREMIERE LEAGUE: Areno Esser v Stoke '8.07; Edmburgh v Sleighess.
AMATEUR LEAGUE: Newport & Excur v Midenhall (7.0); Oxford v Ryde (7.0); Oxford v Belle Vue
18.30).

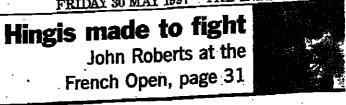
Other sports

GOLF: Philips PFA Senior Classic ( Chepsion NG: British Grand Pro super fina ADMINITUM: World Championships (Glaseow

THE AVERAGE COW PASSES ENOUGH WIND IN A WEEK TO INFLATE A HOT AIR BALLOON

TOMORROW 11.20PM CHANNEL 4

as Middlesex skipper, page 30



# **England on a** mission to silence Silesia

IAN RIDLEY reports from Katowice



If he could have found any Englishmen in their squad, perhaps Glenn Hoddle should have in-

cluded a few Middlesbrough players. "That's to insult Teesside," said one veteran "That's to insult when it was suggested that players from the losing Cup finalists might feel at home in this foreign coalfield where England arrived last night for their World Cup qualifying match against Poland tomorrow, "Katowice makes Middlesbrough look like Cannes."

The Poles enjoy bringing England to industrial Silesia. In 1973, the late, great Bobby Moore made a rare mistake, Poland won 2-0 and England went on to miss Germany 74. Four years ago in the "made for Wrighty" game, we saw Graham Taylor's headless chickens and a 1-1 draw that looked decent enough until Norway followed soon after and England were all but eliminated from

Everton hope to persuade

George Graham to resign as

Leeds United manager and de-

Chairman Peter Johnson

plans to make an official approach to Leeds United today

for Graham and is willing to pay

compensation. He will try to

tempt Graham with a salary of £15,000 a week and a £20m

While Johnson prefers Gra-

ham other board members

would like to speak to Mid-

diesbrough's Bryan Robson and

Leicester's Martin O'Neill, the

two other names thought to be

on the shortlist. However, these

two will not be approached un-

til the hunt for Graham is con-

land Road may be striker Bri-

an Deane. Graham is thought

to be looking at Nottingham

Forest's Alf Inge Haaland for around £2m, while the 29-year-

Paul Warhurst has rejected Ath te offer of a new contract

ceedfold Deane has been linked with

fortal rom Blackburn and appears set

whose, move to Middlesbrough.

cluded one way or another. Another departure from El-

camp to Goodison Park.

ALAN NIXON

transfer kitty.

**Everton set their** 

sights on Graham

controlled and self-controlled England. The clucking Paul Ince, booked last time and suspended from the 2-0 defeat in Oslo, is supposedly now a swan after two years in Italy, while Ian Wright's anger is apparently being managed by one of that new breed, the FA

Cool heads will be required in what is likely to be a fevered atmosphere, with the Poles needing to win if they are to retain hopes of at least reaching a playoff from Group Two. England matches in the stadium at Chorzow, on the fringe of Katowice, have been known to unfold against a backdrop of terrace un-

"It's an intimidating place and a fanatical crowd but it loses a bit of atmosphere with a running track around it so I don't see too much of a probiem," said Hoddle, not likely himself to get too carried away. "We had to deal with it in Georgia. Once the game starts, as a player you switch off from

"I wouldn't say this place is the most attractive to go and play but we are going to have to be mentally switched on," the England coach added. Indeed, The hope is that this is a more experienced and mature, to mind. He was once asked if

Birmingham and Manchester

City all showed interest in the

ersatile 27-year-old last season.

finalised his £3.75m move to

Rangers from Fiorentina. An-

other signing, for £1.75m, was

Staale Stensaas from the Nor-

Scotland's clubs will vote to-

day to double the number of

work permit players allowed in

the League. The present limit of 10 will be increased to 20 if

put forward by Motherwell and

supported by Rangers. Simon Rodger is among five

Crystal Palace players about to

er Steve Coppell. The 25-year-

old midfielder is out of contract

at the end of June. Defender

Gareth Davies, midfielder Dar-

ren Pitcher, along with squad

ted free or half-price next sea-

son. The club has responded to

ny Scully, are the others.

the League AGM backs a plan

wegian side. Rosenborg.

Lorenzo Amoruso yesterday

Anfield intimidated players. "Only the bad ones," he replied.

Hoddle is more concerned with the state of the pitch, which he is led to believe will be better than the last time England played here. The aim, he insists, is to win the game, rather than emulate the previous draw as he still retains hopes of heading the group rather than settling for a play-

Staying in touch with the leaders, Italy, will be crucial if the match against them in Rome in October is to remain meaningful rather than be a mere shutting-out exercise for an Italian team which excels at just that.

"It's an English instinct to try and win a game." Hoddle said. "That's how we are brought up as kids. I am trying to win the game and I've said that to the players. The game in Italy doesn't happen as I hope it's going to happen if we don't win in

"As well as a tough environment to play in, the Poles are a tough side to play against," he added. "They should have beaten Italy. They had the oppor-tunities. Their natural instinct is to man-mark and make things difficult for you to create, but I am confident with the players I have in the squad that we can

"They have got to try and beat us, to come out and be open at certain times of the game. That's the time we have to make sure we punish them. We have scored five goals away from home and not let a goal in so we have got to have that same mentality in approaching the game."

In the match at Wembley last

October, England's first at home after Euro 96, Poland initially dominated, scoring early through the now injured Marek Citko, who subse-quently turned down Blackburn Rovers, before two pieces of Alan Shearer opportunism came to the rescue. Hoddle wants no repetition of England's sluggish start then.

There were a few stern words because it wasn't the way I wanted it done," said Hoddie, "It was after in iron out new deals with managmer and they thought they could just put on the shirts and perform. They didn't give Poland the respect they should have done. We won the game but there were things we didn't

players Rory Ginty and Antho-The failure to close down Sheffield Wednesday have space and opponents was the main thing and hard work in a announced a new ticket scheme which will see children admitcity known for its industry will he crucial this time. There is indeed something from Middlescriticism of high ticket prices by brough that England could do announcing the package for 15 of the 19 Premiership matches. with tomorrow night: it is the aggressive yet calm spirit - as player, at least - of Bryan Robson.

A contemplative Mark Taylor after being dismissed for 30 at Bristol yesterday

### **Taylor to** keep place in first Test

Guy Hodgson reports on a day of good and bad news for the Australian captain

The question of the week, at least as far as the Australian press has been concerned, appeared to be answered definitively yesterday, when Mark Taylor confirmed that he would play in next week's first Test at Edgbaston, presumably as captain.

Taylor's disclosure would seem to put an end to the constitution about his immediate future.

to the speculation about his immediate future, though he is old and wise enough to know that the doubters will remain, particularly after another unconvincing knock.

Taylor took his overnight 19 to 30 in an innings that included an edge short of the ships and a bat-pad appeal that went in his favour before he was trapped leg-before going back to Martyn Ball's offspin. He now has only a three-day game against Derbyshire in which to find fluency before the Ash-

es series.

"It was a missed opportunity," he said. "I'm hitting the ball better than I was in Australia and South Africa but the problem is mental. Perhapo I'm being a bit tentative. I just started to get post itive today when I got out. It's not like 1989 and 1993 when I was in form and I could treat a county match as just that. Now the pressure is on me. It's like a Test every time I go to the wicket which is probably the best thing for me. If I can get through this I'll be ready to go." through this I'll be ready to go.

Alan Crompton, the Australian tour manager, expressed sympathy for his captain. "We are disappointed for him," Crompton said, "We feel for him and we are willing him to do well. He is very popular with the team.

Especially with Justin Langer and Matthew Elliott whose form had also been causing concern. Both scored centuries in a second innings of 354 for 4 declared on a flat Bristol track that could have been ordered for batting practice.

Langer's 152 was impressive, the innings of the day came from Elliott. The tall left-hander has been compared to Bill Lawrie but until this knock his tour had been more Hugh Laurie as he had managed just 19 balls for 11 runs. With that sort of tenure a batsman is not sure what sort of form, he is in but, by dint of waiting for the right ball, Elliott found out by scoring 124 off 237 balls that included eight fours.

Elliott's form merely emphasised Taylor's lack.

of it and the captain's mood was hardly helped yesterday when a tabloid presented him with a huge piece of willow to protect his wicket. It was a joke, although he failed to see it. "I can laugh at myself," Taylor said, "but I don't think I need to stand next to a three-foot bat to prove it."

Talking of jokes, you can a gauge a shock by the rumours that emanate from it, and when Australia were beaten 3-0 by England in the Texaco Trophy one rumour in particular suggested a high read-ing on the Richter Scale. "They've ordered the hotel minibars to be emptied." it said, conveying an image of secretive sorrow-drowning on a grand

Ho, ho. Australians who cannot be trusted not to bar binge, a team so used to winning it has to hit the bottle in defeat. It smelt of disintegrating discipline, a tour party in disarray. Give the Ash-

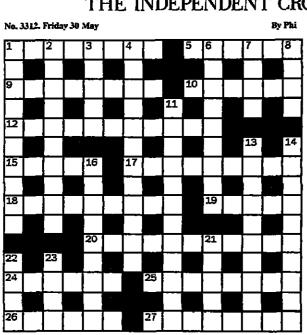
Sadly for those who wear the Lion close to their nearts, the rumour was unfounded. The pars of Bristol had been emptied all right, but not of beer. The offending articles too potent to be left safely in the players' rooms proved to be packets of peanuts. The tinnies and the wines remained.

"It's very amusing," Crompton said, dismissing the whispers with a smile. "Our boys are committed, dedicated cricketers. There's no need to issue orders of that nature." It transpired it was the party's dietician who objected to the nuts.

More cricket, scoreboard, page 30

#### a del to leave Ewood Park. Bolton. Dortmund's art, page 30

Al Fayed buys Fulham,



ACROSS I believe writing fluid has been put into spirits (8)
5 Less than 100 shares for a curious group (3.3)

9 Mark on pitch everything goes through to enter middle of net? (4-4) 10 Fool elected to restrict Grimsby's opening trans-

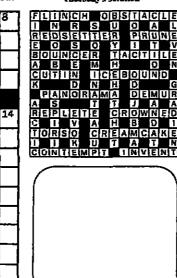
12 Heavy road vehicle walker's encountered round the end of the morning (5-6)

15 Passage runs backwards through the kidneys (5) 17 Student in difficulties taking drug? One overlooks it 2

18 River-based business for a 3 mutt swimming round riv-

19 Sailor is turning over bones (5)

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



20 Hurry up and blow that safe! (3.8) 24 Fix one to be given endlessly tedious job (6)

26 Polish? From Scandinavia, 11 we hear (6) 27 Consignment presented in French is French food

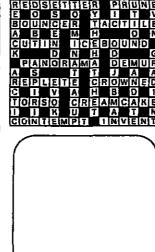
item (8)

25 Goes mad with most of

over speed shown by court

Business merger suggested 21 by workers' group? (5.5) One has symbol of Christ curtailed in another reli-

boar during meals (4.2.6)



Shame record's passed over engineer's last correction to recording (9) Left heart of cut of meat

this one? (4) plan's less familiar aspect 8 Can yard appear as small? Last seen in Parthenon,

carefully arranged? (5.7) Rebuking outbreak of pub attacking (10) 14 A run? Check about shorts. Graduate's main point is over speed shown by court getting involved in that, enoving attending court (9)

found in BM galleries,

22 Street urchin heads for wealthy and imposing figgiou (5)
Lion's family leave head of 23 Mostly inadequate scruti-

Film director's a top artist

Photograph: David Ashdown

#### Stimpson given chance to boot rivals into touch

**Rugby Union** CHRIS HEWETT

reports from Cape Town



If goal-kicking is all in the mind, Tim Stimpson's memory will be

portant as his right boot when he lines up his first shot in Cape Town tomorrow. In a sharp adjustment of policy the Lions have left their front-line marksmen, Neil Jenkins and Paul Grayson, out of the side to face Western Province at Newlands and handed the responsibility to a 23-year-old rookie who has not taken aim

in earnest for more than a year. The inference is clear. Should the Newcastle full-back deliver the goods in the most intense and demanding environment so far experienced by the tourists, a Test place against the Springboks will be his for the taking.

While it may be a bold call, it is also a worthwhile one. Newlands is hardly the place for Grayson to start rebuilding his shredded confidence following his travails against Border on Wednesday while on Jenkins' own admission Rory Bremner might have given a better impersonation of a Test-class No 15 than he himself managed in

Port Elizabeth six days ago. With Gregor Townsend, the front-runner as the Test stand-off, feeling bullish about his own occasional place kicking the Lions will take on Western Province with a range of options, even if they are of the untried variety.

Afrans Road Walford

case with his selection yesterday. People tend to forget that Tim is a career kicker," the manager said. "Last season was the first in which he took a back seat to someone else in that department. At all other times he

has been the No 1 man." There was further significance in the switching of John Bentley from right to left wing. He is likely to face James Small and if Bentley can find it within himself to shade tomorrow's contest, he too will be looking at the bright lights come Test time at the same venue on 21

Martin Johnson will, as expected, make his tour how tomorrow and given the presence of a number of other obvious Test contenders - Ieuan Evans. Jeremy Guscott, Rob Howley, Jason Leonard, Simon Shaw, Lawrence Dallaglio and Richard Hill - the side he leads looks distinctly useful. It will have to be, for Western Province are certain to ask questions far more difficult than any poised by Eastern

Province or Border. There was a degree of relief for the Lions yesterday with the news that Scott Gibbs, injured in East London and flown straight to Cape Town for X-rays on his stricken left ankle, may play again in a week. "There is no break and the ligament damaged is limited," Cotton said. 'Seven days seems realistic, so

there is no question of us calling in a replacement." The management have worries in other areas. While Rob Wainwright, who led the side Certainly Fran Cotton was at against Border, declined to

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referee, Andre Burger, Cotton was perfectly prepared to proffer a point of view. "The quality of refereeing was not of the standard we want to see on

this tour." he asserted. Not for the first time law interpretation is the subject of urgent concern amongst the Lions' hierarchy and no one expects the issue to go away.

On a brighter note, Wainwright underlined the unity of purpose amongst the Lions by reacting honestly but positively to the disappointments and frustrations of East London. "I'd like to think it will prove a turning point for us because it was a match we managed to win despite the low quality of performance" he said.

"I was very disappointed at our inability to rise above the conditions and impose some control on what went on but you take something from every game and now that virtually all of us have seen some action, we are more aware of the job waiting to be done."

Western Province will also be aware of a few things though. Strong as the Lions look on paper, they know they face a mighty test tomorrow.

mighty test tomorrow.
Lions (v Western Province, Cape Town, tomorrow'r Stimpson Olevecssie and Engand;
I Bates (Liongil and Weles), A Test (Newcostie and Scotland), I Gascott (Bath and England);
I Townstend (Northampton and Scotland), R Howley (Cardiff and Wales); G Rowntone (Lecester and England), B Williams (Richmond and
Wales), J Leonard (Harleydrus and England),
M Johnson (Lecester and England, Capt), S
Shasy (Bristo) and England), L Dallegilo
(Wester and England), T Rodber (Northampton
and England), R Hilli (Seracers and England),
Replacements: N Jenkins (Pontypnid and
Wales), W Greenwood (Lecester), M Dawwoon
(Northampton and England), M Regan (Bratol and England), P Wester (Bratol and England), M Regan (Bratol and England), W Greenwood (Richmond and Wales),

## Mamei is not a statistic.

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